



## Don't Forget - Sierra Madre Art Fair This Weekend

# Mountain Views News

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2011

VOLUME 5 NO. 19

### New Monthly Feature: Sierra Madre Search And Rescue Log

During the past month Sierra Madre Search and Rescue (SMSR) responded to eight calls for assistance, including:

**Injured Ankle, Chantry Flat:** The Team was called to aid a hiker who fell while carrying a child across a creek near Chantry Flat. Medical assistance was provided and both parties were evacuated safely.

**Technical Rescue, Eaton Canyon:** SMSR was called to assist Altadena Mountain Rescue in the technical rescue of a fallen hiker in Eaton Canyon. The injured hiker was stabilized and then lowered from a high point using a vertical litter setup.

**Stranded Hikers, Chantry Flat:** The Team responded to a report of hikers stranded in a precarious position near a waterfall in the Chantry Flat area, but while searching for the parties it was learned that they were no longer in danger. Before leaving the area Team members already in the field were able to perform a "rescue" of sorts: assisting a different hiking party with retrieval

ing a backpack that had been washed away.

In addition to responding to calls for help, Team members also performed two wilderness safety demonstrations at local elementary schools.

SMSR maintains a high state of readiness by training regularly in its local area and with other mountain-rescue teams. In April the Team traveled to Joshua Tree National Park for an annual joint training with Joshua Tree Search and Rescue (JOSAR), Desert Sheriff's Search and Rescue and the Riverside Mountain Rescue Unit. "This multi-agency training event has developed into an anticipated opportunity for the teams involved to gain and to hone skills, and to get to work together," SMSR President Larry Smith said.

During this event two SMSR members "got lost" in the park and the other participants--with no knowledge of the members' locations--were tasked with finding them. Ground teams tracked

the subjects using footprints and other clues.

This year SMSR brought with it a new tool to help leaders manage the search: recently-developed GIS software designed specifically for search and rescue operations (SMSR has been instrumental in the development of this software). "Individual searchers go into the field to track and look for clues, but they are dependent upon a few who run the base camp operation," Smith said. "These folks make the search assignments, redirect teams in the field, man the radios, keep track of all the clues teams are finding, evaluate the clues and generally manage the operation. GIS, as it was applied, allowed the search leaders to track in real time the progress of the search teams, plot the clues found, give timely direction to the field teams, and overall more effectively run the search. JOSAR was particularly impressed with the technology Sierra Madre brought to the search."

The all-volunteer SMSR team has been serving the local community for 60 years. Funded entirely by private donations, SMSR provides a range of public programs on wilderness safety in addition to its search and rescue activities. The Team never charges for any of its services.

For more information, including how to arrange a wilderness safety demonstration for your school or group, visit [www.smsr.org](http://www.smsr.org).

Emergency Phone Number (626) 355-1414 (Sierra Madre Police Dept.)  
**SMSR is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year - anywhere, any time, any weather**

### Two Dead Bodies In Seven Days - One Murder - One Suicide Near Sierra Madre

Los Angeles County Coroner's investigators and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Homicide investigators are reporting that the body of a man found Thursday in the Chantry Flats area of Angeles National Forest is that of Kevin Wolfe Pochter. (Right) Pochter was a 55-year old resident of Huntington Beach.

Sheriff's Homicide investigators had alerted the public that Pochter was a suspect in the shooting death of his long time friend, 53-year old Dean Albert of Arcadia, in Chantry Flats on April 28, 2011. Pochter was considered armed and dangerous.

The massive search for Pochter stretched over 62-miles of rugged terrain and involved patrol deputies from several sheriff's stations, Mounted Enforcement Detail deputies, K-9's, sheriff's reserve deputies on Search and Rescue Teams, U.S. Forest Service rangers, and the Arcadia, Sierra Madre, and Monrovia Police Departments. Of particular assistance was the Sierra Madre Search & Rescue team, which included a large number of dedicated community volunteers.

A member of the public saw the victim's vehicle on Saturday near Mount Wilson and alerted deputies. He had read about the search for the car and the armed and dangerous suspect in the San Gabriel Valley Tribune.

On Monday morning, yet another alert member of the public who was hiking in the Chantry Flats area, saw a man who he thought was sleeping and told authorities. Sheriff's Mounted Enforcement Detail deputies went to the described area and located Pochter, who was deceased from an apparent self-in-

flicted  
gun-shot



wound. A handgun was found near the body.

The second member of the public had read about the wanted suspect in the Pasadena Star News newspaper. He read that the Sheriff's Department had said he was armed and dangerous, so he wisely did not approach him.

"The two members of the public are directly responsible for the Sheriff's Department locating the victim's car and the suspect when we did," said Captain Mike Parker, Sheriff's Headquarters Bureau. "They handled it exactly as asked, and helped to ensure the safety of everyone, without unnecessarily endangering themselves. We extend our thanks to both of them. Furthermore, they received this important information through the news media, whom the Sheriff's Department works closely with in order to share information to help keep the public informed. We appreciate this partnership in the interest of public safety. This case certainly showed how important it is."

"We want hikers, area workers and the public to know that no other suspects are being sought in this homicide. The case is closed," said Sheriff's Homicide Detective Ray Lugo. -Source: LASD



The SMSR Headquarters - Photo by Lina Johnson

## MAKING OUR HILLSIDES FIRE SAFE A FEW TIPS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Photos and Story by Chris Bertrand

Here in Sierra Madre, our Fire Department (SMFD), Fire Safe Council (SMFSC) and Emergency Preparedness organizations work together to deliver the highest level of preparedness for wildfire. The entire north boundary of the city is adjacent to a high fire danger zone, the Angeles National Forest, requiring vigilant brush and tree maintenance, especially on hillsides, where fire can travel quickly uphill.

The source of a fire can come from human intention called arson sadly identified as the ignition of the Station Fire; human carelessness from the toss of a match, children playing with fire or firecrackers, as was seen four years ago in the small NW Sierra Madre fire, high winds creating a fire hazard, as in the devastating Oakland fires of two decades ago, or from nature herself, in the form of lightning.

As temperatures shot up into the nineties this week, and humidity dipped near to single digits in Sierra Madre, fire season has announced itself. Catalina already had a brush fire on the first day of the high temperatures and winds, and the smoke plume could be seen from hillsides in Sierra Madre on Monday.

Though the governor announced an official "end" to California's drought, the torrential rains that filled the reservoirs also produced a lush, extraordinarily thick crop of grasses that could be seen to turn from supple and green to tinder dry in a matter of days last week.

The goal for hillsides to be cleared of dangerous flammable brush is June 1st every year, according to Rich Snyder, Fire Marshal of the SMFD. After that date, homes that still require hillside brush abatement can be cited. "We need to be fire safe, and brush abatement is critical to minimize our exposure to

wildfire," said Snyder. "It's not a question of 'if' but when the next fire will threaten Sierra Madre," he reflected.

What should homeowners do to prepare and defend? First and foremost is to create a defensible space around each home

According to the Fire Safe Council's website, <http://sites.google.com/site/sierramadrefiresafecouncil/>, the plan is straightforward, and the council is even offering incentives to encourage the abatement process to "create defensible space by clearing brush 30'-100' from buildings and 20' from roads. Trim "ladder fuels" (branches) at least ten feet above the ground."

The two-pronged Fire Safe Council incentive program for properties north of Grandview actually extends beyond the city borders into Upper Hastings Ranch of East Pasadena. For removal of dead trees and highly combustible trees, SMFSC will rebate 20% of the homeowner's cost of removal provided

crane for safe removal.

According to Mike Kinney, five year volunteer and President of Sierra Madre's Fire Safe Council, "People don't realize the danger of trimming at the wrong time of year, and unscrupulous or uninformed tree trimmers can actually make the fire hazard even greater by trimming oaks in the rainy season, and pine trees in the dry summer months."

Of particular concern are three flammable trees: palms, pines and eucalyptus. Kinney calls them "fireworks" as an ember will light them up. "The palm is a sparkler," he said. They found palm leaves traveled up to 18 miles in the Australia fires last year. The pines are like Roman candles by August, when they are full of dead pine needles, and Eucalyptus are like Cherry bombs. They literally explode with all the oils in them. We're concentrating on these three this year, putting 80% of our efforts into tree removal."

"One of our biggest single projects ever was completed by Danny Osti Tree Service this spring," commented Kinney. "They hauled 22.5 tons from a Hermosa Avenue homesite where trees had grown for 75-100 years. The egress was so difficult; they had to arrange to bring out the debris through a cooperative homeowner's property on Sierra Meadow. Danny Osti has more done more for this city's fire safety than any other. His company alone has hauled away in excess of a hundred tons of flammable that's been removed from the city. Rasmussen Tree service does all the chipping for the city, and is very active in our program, though homeowners may choose any professional tree service, provided they hold

they apply and the project is approved. Timing is everything, however. Oak trees shouldn't be trimmed until there's been two months of dry weather. Conversely, pines shouldn't be trimmed in the dry weather, or they will "bleed" sap and invite bark beetles. Once a pine has died, often due to bark beetles, it creates additional hazards, as it becomes too fragile to climb, and requires a



a city business license." (Yearly or single job city business licenses are easily procured at city hall.)

The second critical area of the incentive program involves chipper service. It provides access to a free "chipper" service for do it yourselfers who can haul the brush to a safe pickup point at the street or their driveway. Each resident in the service area of the fire safe council is entitled to up to one day of free chipper service per year, and pre-inspections are available upon request.

Per their website, "Place brush piles so the chipping machine and crew can have access. The piles need to be adjacent to a driveway or street. Preferably pile brush on the uphill side. Do not place piles along busy, heavily traveled roadway, where signage or addition crew would be required by County or State Code for safety. This is not covered under the Fire Safe Council's contract. Also, when placing the brush piles place it in an area that will be out of your way and in a location that there is access for the equipment to turn around. It is easier and more efficient to chip the piles if they are wider and spread out rather than taller. All the cut ends need to be facing the same direc-

tion. Keep all piles free of rocks, dirt, wire, lumber, spiny plants, poison oak, and blackberries. The chipper cannot chip piles of pine needles or leaves. You can dispose of this material in green waste dumpsters."

All one needs to do is contact the council to arrange a date in advance. Resident's don't even need to be home during the chipper service. According to SMFSC, it currently, it takes approximately 2- 4 days from the time we receive the form to the date you are assigned for chipping or pickup.

Kinney continued, "It's been a long learning curve for the fire safe councils and for homeowners. In five years we haven't made it even to first base. We still have a lot to do. We've tried many different projects. This year's grant money runs til the funds run out, so take advantage of the rebates and chipping sooner rather than later."

For more information about fire safe cleanup, contact Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council at (626) 355-0741 or by email to [SMFireSafeCouncil@GMail.com](mailto:SMFireSafeCouncil@GMail.com). Danny Osti Tree Service, of Sierra Madre, can be reached at 626-355-7087. San Gabriel based, Rasmussen Tree Care can be contacted at (626) 665-9321.

A customer said:

"...the latte I get at Niko's reminds me of the coffee I used to drink in Vienna, creamy frothy foam, real coffee flavor and a fabulous coffee scent that is to die for!"

## NIKO AND FRIENDS CAFÉ

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On the Michillinda/Montecito Corner

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626-510-6151

[www.Nikoandfriendscafe.com](http://www.Nikoandfriendscafe.com)



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## Weather Wise

## 5-Day Forecast

Sierra Madre, Ca.

<b>Mon:</b>	Ptly Cldy	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
<b>Tues:</b>	Sunny	Hi 80s	Lows 50s
<b>Wed:</b>	Sunny	Hi 80s	Lows 50s
<b>Thur:</b>	Sunny	Hi 80s	Lows 50s
<b>Fri:</b>	Sunny	Hi 70s	Lows 50s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service



## CITY OF SIERRA MADRE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings listed below are held at City Hall 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 626-355-7135

**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL BUDGET MEETING:**  
Tuesday, May 10, 2011 6:30 pm

May 9 @ 7:00pm - General Plan Steering Committee | City Hall

May 10 @ 6:30pm - City Council | City Hall

May 11 @ 6:30pm - Arts Commission | City Hall

May 16 @ 6pm - Community Services Commission | City Hall

May 17 @ 6:30pm - UUT Oversight Committee | City Hall

May 18 @ 7pm - Tree Advisory Committee | City Hall

May 19 @ 7pm - Planning Commission | City Hall

May 24 @ 6:30pm - City Council | City Hall

May 25 @ 7pm - Library Board of Trustees | City Hall

## 1630 AM

## Free on-air publicity for local events

Sierra Madre's new community radio station is now accepting scripts for Public Service Announcements (PSAs) about community events. PSAs will be broadcast on the air at no charge. The station operates 24/7 and can be heard at 1630 on the AM dial.

Any local non-profit or non-commercial organization can have their event information broadcast to the public on *Sierra Madre Community Information Radio*. This new radio station covers the city of Sierra Madre, plus surrounding areas of Pasadena, Arcadia, and Monrovia. In a nutshell, your event must:

- Benefit a non-commercial or non-profit entity
- Be open to the public
- Be of general interest to local citizens

Just write a Public Service Announcement that describes your event and e-mail it to [radio@cityofsierramadre.com](mailto:radio@cityofsierramadre.com).

## LIBRARY BARGAIN BOOK TABLE SALE

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library will be having a Bargain Table Book Sale at the Library, Monday, May 9 through Saturday, May 14, during the Library's open hours. Featured topics will include: Fiction, Sports, Animals, Time-Life's Old West series, Children's and Specialty books. All books are in good condition and are \$1.00 each. It pays to stop by often—books are replenished daily, and there are always plenty of new titles to choose from.

The Sierra Madre Public Library, located at 440 West Sierra Madre Boulevard in Sierra Madre, is open Monday through Wednesday from Noon to 9 p.m., Thursday and Friday from Noon to 6 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (626) 355-7186. [www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us](http://www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us).

TRAVELERS AND COLLECTORS  
SPEAKERS SERIES Season Finale

On Friday, May 13, at 7:30 p.m., in Sierra Madre's City Hall Chambers, Jay Whitcraft will present the final armchair excursion of the year in "Portugal by Car." Join Jay on his tour of this culturally rich, romantic country on the beautiful Iberian Peninsula, often referred to as "Europe's West Coast." In addition to background on Portugal's discovery, exploration and marine history, trip highlights will include palaces and castles, port wine country, the Douro River Valley, and Fado, Portugal's traditional music.

This program is free and open to the public. Sierra Madre City Hall is located at 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., in Sierra Madre. This is the final program of the season; the series will resume in February 2012. For more information, please call Catriona Shafer at (626) 355-7186.

## SUMMER AQUATIC POSITIONS

Don't miss out on your opportunity to work at the Sierra Madre Aquatic Center this summer! The City of Sierra Madre is continuing to accepting applications for the summer aquatic season through Monday, May 2, 2011. Perspective candidates may apply for the positions of: Cashier, Lifeguard, Water Safety Instructor or Shift Lead. For more information on each position and the application process, please visit [www.cityofsierramadre.com](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com). Applications may be submitted electronically at the same website. For more information please contact the Community and Personnel Services Department at 626-355-5278.

## FRIDAY FAMILY MOVIE SERIES

The 2011 Friday movies series is beginning on Friday, May 6, 2011. Movies are shown free to the public every other Friday beginning on May 6, 2011 and running through June 3, 2011. Movies are shown in Kersting Court, at the corner of Sierra Madre Blvd. and Baldwin Ave. The movie line-up is: May 6 – Toy Story 3, May 20 – Despicable Me, and June 3 – How to Train your Dragon. For more information call 626-355-5278.

**Titles To Go**  
Bringing the library to you!

**Sierra Madre Public Library  
Homebound Program**

[www.cityofsierramadre.com](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com)  
626.355.7186

The Sierra Madre Library is offering a new program to homebound persons who live in Sierra Madre called "Titles To Go" - Bringing the library to you! The program is free and enrollment is very simple. For more information, please call Anna Valencia at (626) 355-7186

AUTHOR  
TALK  
AT THE  
LIBRARY  
*An Afternoon  
with Laurie  
Viera Rigler*

Best-selling author Laurie Viera Rigler will appear at the Sierra Madre Public Library on Saturday, May 21, at 2:00 p.m. Ms. Rigler is the author of two uproariously funny novels in which the main character finds herself unexpectedly transported backward or forward in time, one to repressive 19th c. England (Confessions of a Jane Austen Addict), the other to free-wheeling 21st c. America (Rude Awakenings of a Jane Austen Addict). The results are hilarious, as each tries to cope with a society she finds utterly foreign, yet fascinating. These delightfully inventive feel-good reads have been hailed by critics as "snappy, fresh and laugh-out-loud funny," and "a very accurate but humorous comparison between the lifestyles of Jane Austen's time and the modern day."

After her presentation, which is aptly titled, "Confessions of a Jane Austen Addict," Ms. Rigler will be available to chat and sign books. Light refreshments will be served. The Sierra Madre Public Library is located at 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. in Sierra Madre. (626) 355-7186. [www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us](http://www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us).

## What Do YOU Think?

We'd like to hear from you! Contact us at:

[editor@mtnviewsnews.com](mailto:editor@mtnviewsnews.com) or

[www.facebook.com/  
mountainviewsnews](http://www.facebook.com/mountainviewsnews)

PUSD ANNUAL STUDENT ART  
EXHIBIT IS MAY 14-20*No Boundaries 6 Showcases K-12 Visual and  
Performing Arts*

Pasadena, CA - NO BOUNDARIES 6, the sixth annual exhibition of visual and performing art by Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) students, opens May 14 at the Shops on Lake in Pasadena. The exhibit features more than 400 pieces of both two and three dimensional student artwork representing every grade level and every school in the district. The exhibit's title, No Boundaries, refers to the exhibit's goal of showcasing artwork without limits in size or media, and the unlimited creative potential of the students in the district. The exhibit is free and the public is welcome.

In partnership with Stein Mart, Vornado Realty Trust and the South Lake Business Association, NO BOUNDARIES will be presented this year at The Shops on Lake at 345 S. Lake Avenue. An opening reception on Friday, May 13 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. will feature live band and choral music, and dance performances by PUSD students.

New this year is that PUSD's No Boundaries 6 will be an Arts Partner this year in the popular City of Pasadena annual ArtNight, which showcases the city's rich cultural resources on a single evening. This year's ArtNight is May 20 from 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. Visit [www.artnightpasadena.org](http://www.artnightpasadena.org) for more details.

Select student artists exhibiting in No Boundaries will be chosen to receive scholarships to attend programs at the Armory Center for the Arts and the Art Center College of Design. In addition, the Pasadena Arts Commission will select 60 artworks to be on display on the art wall at City Hall in an on-going exhibition known as Bridging Boundaries. Partnerships with community arts organizations, and the numerous programs they provide to PUSD students, will also be on display.

**What:**  
No Boundaries 6, PUSD's Annual Student Art Exhibition

**When:**  
Friday, May 13, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.,  
Opening Reception with music & speakers

Friday May 14-20 – Exhibit Open  
Friday, May 20 – 6 p.m. ArtNight

**Where:** The Shops on Lake  
345 S. Lake Avenue (at the former Stein Mart store in the Corner Bakery plaza, just north of Macy's)

**Parking:** Ample FREE public parking available

**Cost:** Free!

For more information visit PUSD web site at [www.gopUSD.com/arts](http://www.gopUSD.com/arts) or contact 626-396-3600, ext 88129.

**YOUR AD COULD BE HERE!**  
**Call Patricia at 626-818-2698 Today!**

49th Annual  
Sierra Madre Art Fair

Saturday, May 7, 2011 - 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sunday, May 8, 2011 - 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Wood Turnings in Buckeye Burl  
by Featured Artist Ivy Shuman

100 Artists, Children's Activities,  
Live Entertainment and Food Court

## Free Admission

Sierra Madre Memorial Park

222 West Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA

for event information: 626.355.7186 or [www.sierramadrelibraryfriends.org](http://www.sierramadrelibraryfriends.org)

Benefits Sierra Madre Public Library

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE  
GRAND MARSHAL SOUGHT

The Sierra Madre Fourth of July Committee is looking for candidates for the 2011 Fourth of July Parade Grand Marshal. The Parade will be held Monday, July 4, 2011.

Parade Grand Marshal Candidates should echo the spirit of Sierra Madre, be an active volunteer in any of the local nonprofit organizations, or in some way contributed to the betterment of Sierra Madre.

Nominations must be submitted by Tuesday, May 17th and should be sent to the Fourth of July Committee, P.O. Box 1073, Sierra Madre, CA 91025 or via e-mail to [matthewbosse@hotmail.com](mailto:matthewbosse@hotmail.com)

The Parade begins at 10 a.m. at Sunnyside and Sierra Madre Blvd., following complimentary breakfast at the Woman's Club Essick House. The Parade ends at about 11:30 a.m. with activities following in Memorial Park until 4 pm.

“EXPERIENCE MAGIC!”  
AT SIERRA MADRE PLAY-  
HOUSE ON MAY 15“Experience Magic!” A new musical includ-  
ing magic and illusion.

**WHO:** Conceived by musical director Ryan Luevano. Music and lyrics by Ryan Luevano. Produced by Jeff Black and Ryan Luevano for Maestro and Magic productions.

**WHERE:** Sierra Madre Playhouse, 87 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024. Ample free parking behind theatre.

**WHEN:** Sunday, May 15, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.

**ADMISSION:** \$20.

**RESERVATIONS:** (626) 355-4318.

**ONLINE TICKETING:** [www.sierramadreplayhouse.org](http://www.sierramadreplayhouse.org)

Three magicians from the famed Magic Castle perform dazzling illusions in this new hybrid of musical and magic show. They are Jeff Black, Arthur Trace and Nathan Gibson.

Luis Avila and Christina Valo also star in this romantic fable about an unemployed young man who goes on a cruise and meets the love of his life, a beautiful magician's assistant.

The original musical score is performed by a live seven piece band.

There's romance, music, and a wonderful opportunity to see three prize-winning magicians perform live in an intimate theatrical setting.

*Live from Burger Continental,  
Pasadena*

## The Harvey Hyde Show

535 So. Lake Ave. Pasadena

(626) 792 - 6634

Every Thursday 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Hard-hitting, High impact Sports  
Talk Radio

*KSHP Las Vegas - 1400 AM*



# SIERRA MADRE

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

## Community Yard Sale

The City of Sierra Madre Senior Community Commission presents a Community Yard Sale on Saturday, June 11, 2011 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. located in the Sierra Vista Park Parking Lot (611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.). Community members are invited to come together with their neighbors to participate in a community yard sale. Participants have the opportunity to clean out their garages, attics, storage sheds and closets without sending those valuable items to landfill.

Cost is \$25.00; proceeds will benefit senior programs and activities. Alternatively, you may donate items to the Senior Community Commission booth to help raise money for senior programs and activities. If you would like to participate in the Community Yard Sale, please register online at [www.cityofsierramadre.com/online/registration](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com/online/registration) or in person at the Community Recreation Office 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Deadline to register is Tuesday, May 31 or until spaces are filled.

Participants must provide their own tables, chairs, canopies (10'x10' maximum) and cash boxes. No electricity will be provided. Live animals, large canopies, and selling of food or drinks are prohibited. All business must be conducted within your space. Event may be cancelled due to inclement weather.

A limited number of spaces are available. For more information please call (626) 355-5278.

## The Missing Cinderella Sighted in Sierra Madre



"Oh, good! Will they wash my mice, too?" Want to know more? Go to: [www.sierramadreplayhouse.org](http://www.sierramadreplayhouse.org)

## Sierra Madre Police Blotter

During the week of Sunday, April 24TH, to Saturday April 30TH, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 260 calls for service. See [crimereports.com](http://crimereports.com) for updated information.

### Sunday, April 24th:

**2:36 AM- Disorderly Conduct/Drunk in Public, Canyon Crest Dr.** Officers responded to a call regarding an intoxicated man arguing with a taxi cab driver. Officers arrested the 18 year old Arcadia man for public intoxication and took him to the Pasadena Police Department Jail for booking.

**3:19 AM- DUI Alcohol/Drugs, San Carlos Rd and Orange Grove Ave.** An officer stopped a 28 year old Pasadena motorist for a Vehicle Code violation and determined that the driver was under the influence of alcohol. The driver was arrested and transported to Pasadena Police Department for booking.

**3:58 PM- Take Vehicle W/O Owner's Consent, 100 blk. Esperanza Ave.** Unknown suspect(s) stole a locked 2003 Toyota Corolla vehicle from an underground garage at the residence. The vehicle was recovered the following day in Sunland.

**8:06 PM- Tampering/Injuring Vehicle or Contents, 100 blk. Esperanza Ave.** Unknown suspect(s) entered an unlocked car parked in an underground parking lot and stole a garage door opener.

**9:45 PM- False Evidence of Registration Tabs, Grandview Ave and Baldwin Ave.** An officer stopped a motorist for a Vehicle Code violation and learned that the 38 year old Pasadena motorist had taken a registration tab from his brother's vehicle and placed the sticker on his vehicle. The driver was arrested and transported to Pasadena Jail for booking.

### Monday, April 25th:

**12:37 AM- Prowling/Peeking in door/window, 400 blk. W. Sierra Madre Blvd.** Officers responded to a call of a man who was looking into a woman's apartment window. An officer found the suspect walking to the rear of an apartment complex. The victim positively identified the man and the officer arrested him. Officers took the suspect to the Sierra Madre jail for booking.

**8:20 AM- Altered/Forged/Counterfeited Document, 100 blk. N. Baldwin Ave.** This incident involves the passing of a counterfeit \$100.00 dollar bill at a Sierra Madre business. The bank told the owner that the bill was counterfeit.

**2:26 PM- Auto Burglary, 100 blk. Lowell Ave.** Unknown suspect(s) entered a locked truck by prying a rear window. The loss was an Alpine radio face.

### Wednesday, April 27th:

**9:06 AM- Petty Theft, 100 blk. S. Baldwin Ave.** This case involves the theft of a UPS package from a UPS pickup box. The victim left the package on top of the UPS container because it did not fit in the receptacle. The loss was a package containing a laptop computer worth \$899.00.

### Thursday, April 28th:

**8:05 AM- Grand Theft Exceeding \$950, 100 blk. E. Alegria Ave.** Unknown suspect(s) entered an unlocked parked vehicle in the victim's driveway. The items stolen included a metallic blue HP Laptop computer, a CD case with approximately 300 cds, purse, \$800.00, a California driver's license, an American Express card, a Visa credit card, a Master card, a Wells Fargo ATM debit card, a Costco card, and spare keys. Total loss was valued at \$1963.00.

**9:23 PM- Vandalism/Under \$400, 100 blk. S. Mountain Trail Ave.** Unknown suspect(s) pelted a victim's vehicle with numerous eggs. The victim also discovered an uprooted plant on her porch.

### Friday, April 29th:

**1:16 AM- DUI Alcohol/Drugs, Michillinda Ave and Sierra Madre Blvd.** An officer stopped a 21 year old Sierra Madre motorist for a Vehicle Code and determined that the driver was under the influence of alcohol. The driver was arrested and transported to Pasadena Police Department for booking.

**2:53 AM- DUI Alcohol/Drugs, 300 blk. N. Lima St.** An officer stopped a 23 year old Sierra Madre motorist for a Vehicle Code and determined that the driver was under the influence of alcohol. The driver was arrested and transported to Pasadena Police Department for booking.

**8:39 AM- Grand Theft Exceeding \$950, 100 blk. W. Montecito Ave.** A victim reported that someone had stolen some of his 1964 US silver antique dimes. The coins were taken sometime from December 2010 through April 15, 2011. The suspects also took 20 rolls worth of quarters. Total loss value \$17,200.00.

**9:24- Arson of Property, 100 blk. W. Sierra Madre Blvd.** A victim reported two suspects damaged his posted sign by forcefully removing the sign and trying to burn it. Suspect #1 was a black man, 20-30, about 5'09, 200 lbs, wearing a white jacket with a dark printed logo on it and Capri shorts. Suspect #2 was a white man, 20-30, about 5'09 and 190 lbs., wearing a dark jacket with a printed logo shirt on it and a white baseball hat.

**11:15 - Use Another's Personal Identification to Obtain Credit/Etc, 100 blk. E. Highland Ave.** This incident involves the unauthorized use of the victim's credit and the fraudulent electronic filing of her Federal Income Tax return for 2010.

**1:03 PM - Use of Another's Personal Identification to Obtain Credit/Etc, 180 blk. N. Mountain Trail Ave.** A suspect used the victim's personal data to unlawfully open a credit card account at Kohl's department store in Westchester, CA.

### Saturday, April 30th:

**10:03 AM- Hate Crime, 100 blk. E. Highland Ave.** Officers responded to a call regarding a reported blood trail near Bethany school. The officers inspected the substance and determined that it was red paint. The suspects apparently used the red paint to write a derogatory hate slur on the sidewalk.



## Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3208

Sierra Madre, California

Invites the Public To

**Memorial Day Ceremonies At**

**Sierra Madre Pioneer Cemetery**

**Monday May 30, 2011 At 11:00 am**

**Speaker, MaryAnn MacGillivray**

**Councilwoman**

**Refreshments and sandwiches To follow**

## EXHIBITION & ARTIST RECEPTION

The City of Sierra Madre Community Arts Commission is pleased to present an exhibition by Christine Prentice.

The exhibition is now on display through Friday, June 10 in Sierra Madre City Hall, 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Community members are invited to an Artist Reception on Friday, May 13, 2011 from

6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Sierra Madre City Hall. The event is open to the public and light refreshments will be served.

"Since very young, I have inclined toward the creative both dance and art. My grandmother painted and I spent long summers at her country home in Connecticut. I watched her sketch in nature or paint in her studio. This childhood exposure strongly influenced me. I took up ceramics while living in Chicago. I worked at Lill Street Studios, where

*I did wheel work and hand-building. More recently, I have focused on cutouts. Dance has infiltrated my art. As a young girl I danced, and have continued to social dance in more recent years. A common theme in my artwork is a female figure depicted metaphorically within a simplified landscape."*

- Christine Prentice

For more information please call the Sierra Madre Community & Personnel Services Department at (626) 355-5278.

## "A Good One Is Hard To Find"



San Marino Community Church welcomes you to Sunday worship on Mother's Day! Associate Pastor, Rev. Karen Berns preaches at both the 9:15 traditional service and "The Gathering" at 11:15 am using Proverbs 31:10-31 as her text.

Discover SMCC's music program!

The Adult Chancel Choir and Music & Discovery Children's Choirs welcome new singers and participate regularly in worship. Learn more at [www.smccpbj.com](http://www.smccpbj.com).

9:15 am Traditional & Student Worship Services

Sunday school (K-5) and childcare provided

10:30 am Adult Spiritual Formation

11:15 am "The Gathering" worship service

Casual worship, multi-voice ensemble, childcare provided

**San Marino Community Church**

1750 Virginia Road, San Marino, CA 91108

For more information call: (626) 282-4181

Connect with us online: [www.smccpbj.com](http://www.smccpbj.com)

City of Sierra Madre

### Public Hearing Notice

**To:** Citywide  
**From:** The City of Sierra Madre  
**Subject:** NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Sierra Madre gives notice that the City Council will hold a Public Hearing on May 24, 2011, at 6:30 PM, or soon thereafter, to hear testimony on the Summer Recreation Fees.

The City is proposing new and updated fees for summer recreational programs.

The copy of the proposed Summer Recreation Fee Schedule is available at City Hall and the Sierra Madre Library for the public to review. If you have any questions about this matter please contact Director of Community & Personnel Services Elisa Weaver at 626.355.5278.

### DATE AND TIME OF HEARING

City of Sierra Madre  
City Council meeting  
Tuesday, May 24, 2011  
(Hearing begins at 6:30 p.m.)

### PLACE OF HEARING

City of Sierra Madre  
City Council Chambers  
232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.  
Sierra Madre, CA 91024

All interested persons may attend this meeting and the City Council will hear them with respect thereto.

For further information on this subject, please contact the Community & Personnel Services Department at 626.355.5278.

Elisa Weaver  
Director of Community & Personnel Services

### NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF LINDA ANN VALES aka LINDA A. VALES

Case No. BP128200

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of LINDA ANN VALES aka LINDA A. VALES

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Phillip J. Vales in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Phillip J. Vales be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on May 23, 2011 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 11 located at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

**Attorney for petitioner:**  
**NAHAL FOLADIFARD ESQ**  
**SBN 273272**

**TISSER LAW GROUP**  
5425 FARRALONE AVE STE 100  
WOODLAND HILLS CA 91367

## THE SHABBY DOG

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[www.theshabbydog.com](http://www.theshabbydog.com)

**(626) 836-5452**

As featured on Rachael Ray, National Enquirer and PEOPLE Pets.







## Local Man Charged with Beating Death of Neighbor's Dog

A 40-year-old Pasadena man pleaded not guilty last week to a charge that he beat a muzzled 16-month-old German shepherd to death with a hammer then removed the dog's body from the owner's yard.

Young Song, an animator at Dreamworks, was arraigned and pleaded not guilty to one felony count of cruelty to an animal and one misdemeanor count of petty theft of a dog with a special allegation of personal use of a deadly weapon, a hammer, said Deputy District Attorney Alison Matsumoto. Bail was set at \$40,000.

Song allegedly entered his neighbor's yard on April 20 and shot the dog with a pellet gun. He allegedly returned to the owner's yard a short time later and beat the dog to death with a hammer then removed the dog's body from the owner's yard.

Pasadena Humane Society and SPCA CEO Steve McNall said the attack was caught on a surveillance camera outside the dog owner's home. After reviewing the footage he said it was the worst case of animal cruelty he had ever seen.

Song returns to court on May 26 to set a date for his preliminary hearing in Department N. If convicted, Song faces more than four years in state prison.

## JPL Open House

JPL welcomes the public for its annual Open House on Sat., May 14; and Sun., May 15, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The popular free event includes exhibits, demonstrations and children's activities that highlight JPL's ongoing research and space exploration. Many scientists and engineers will be on hand to answer questions about how numerous spacecraft study Earth, other planets, and the stars and galaxies beyond our solar system.

## Pet of the Week



Poochie, a two year old Alaskan Malamute mix is strikingly handsome and so much fun! He is very tall, has a lovely thick coat, and a happy personality. Poochie loves to play and needs a home where he will receive plenty of exercise and attention. Come visit with him today!

The regular dog adoption fee is \$120, which includes medical care prior to adoption, spaying or neutering, vaccinations, and a follow-up visit with a participating vet. Please call 626-792-7151 and ask for A285759 or come to the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA, 361 S. Raymond Ave., Pasadena CA, 91105. Our adoption hours are 11-4 Sunday, 9-5 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and 9-4 Saturday. Directions and photos of all pets updated hourly may be found at [www.pasadenahumane.org](http://www.pasadenahumane.org)



**New Council Sworn In:** During Monday's city council meeting, Councilman Steve Haderlein stepped down after 12 years serving District 4; Gene Masuda (second from left) was sworn in as the new councilman representing District 4; Mayor Bill Bogaard, District 1 Councilwoman Jacque Robinson, District 2 Councilwoman Margaret McAustin and District 6 Councilman Steve Madison were each sworn in for another four-year term; and Margaret McAustin (third from left) was elected vice mayor for a one-year term.

## Alumnus Leaves College \$4 Million

The Pasadena City College Foundation received a \$4 million gift – the largest single donation in the college's 87-year history – from the Westerbeck Family Trust, the school's President Dr. Mark Rocha announced Tuesday.

The donation will be used to establish the Robert Westerbeck Scholarship Endowment. Rocha said the gift is the fifth largest single bequests to a community college.

"The extraordinary generosity of alumnus Robert Westerbeck and his wife Adrienne will create a permanent endowment for student scholarships and help to insure access to quality public higher education for generations of students to come," Rocha said.

Dr. Lisa Sugimoto, vice president of college



advancement, estimates that the endowment gift could provide more than 200 new full scholarships annually.

"The impact of the Westerbeck Endowment on student access and success is incalculable," Dr. Sugimoto added.

Westerbeck (known to his friends as Bob) attended Pasadena Junior College (PJC) from 1932 through 1936, graduating from both PJC High School and the college.

The story of Westerbeck and his wife, Adrienne, is rooted in the PCC tradition of a fervent belief in education as the way to realize the American Dream.

## Mayor to Lead Bike Ride and Family Night

The Mayor's Bike ride will be an opportunity for the city to come together for a family-friendly bike ride with Mayor Bill Bogaard. This event will include vendors, entertainment, and prizes for children and adults.

Opening Remarks – Begins at 5:30 with Mayor Bogaard and an introduction of elected officials. Group Bike Ride – Departing at 6:00pm. The bike ride is 2.5 miles and will include both new and experienced riders,

and families. It will be a slow paced ride (10 mph) with designated ride leaders from C.I.C.L.E. and police escorts managing traffic.

Family-Friendly Event – The ride will return to City Hall at 6:30pm for family activities, vendors, and prizes.

Location: Pasadena City Hall, 100 N. Garfield Ave. Pasadena, CA 91101. Festivities will be located on the north side of City Hall along Thurgood Marshall.

What to Bring: Your bicycle,

in good running order, and plenty of night lights. All participants should be able to ride a bike safely with the ability to brake, change gears, and balance while stopping and starting. All participants under 18 must wear a helmet and be escorted by a parent or guardian. Children under age 8 should be on a tag-along, bike trailer, tandem, or other safe child-carrying device to participate in the ride.

## Public Invited To Celebrate Fire Service Day May 14

Meet the dedicated men and women of the Pasadena Fire Department during Fire Service Day on Saturday, May 14, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. At Fire Station 33, 515 N. Lake Ave., firefighters will demonstrate life-saving and fire-suppression techniques including vehicle fires and extinguishments, vehicle rescue operation using the Jaws of Life, and aerial ladder operations. Big red fire trucks and other apparatus will be on display, and there will be hot dogs and other refreshments as well as entertainment. Fire Station 33 is on the west side of

Lake Avenue just north of Villa Street. Parking will be available in Lots C and D at Lake Avenue Church one block south of the fire station. All other fire stations in Pasadena will be open to the public as well to meet firefighters and see big red fire trucks: Fire Station #31, 135 S. Fair Oaks Ave. Fire Station #32, 2424 E. Villa St. Fire Station #34, 1138 E. Del Mar Blvd. Fire Station #36, 1140 N. Fair Oaks Ave. Fire Station #37, 3430 E. Foothill Blvd. Fire Station #38, 1150 E. Linda Vista Ave. For more information call (626) 744-4675.

## NASA Selects Investigations

NASA has selected three science investigations from which it will pick one potential 2016 mission to look at Mars' interior for the first time; study an extraterrestrial sea on one of Saturn's moons; or study in unprecedented detail the surface of a comet's nucleus. NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, Calif., would lead the Mars investigation.

Each investigation team will receive \$3 million to conduct its mission's concept phase or preliminary design studies and analyses. After another detailed

review in 2012 of the concept studies, NASA will select one to continue development efforts leading up to launch. The selected mission will be cost-capped at \$425 million, not including launch vehicle funding.

"NASA continues to do extraordinary science that is re-writing textbooks," said NASA Administrator Charles Bolden. "Missions like these hold great promise to vastly increase our knowledge, extend our reach into the solar system and inspire future generations of explorers."

## USO Show

Lamanda Park Branch Library will host Theatre Americana on Wednesday, May 25 at 6:30 p.m. as they present a USO show honoring our veterans and active military personnel. Enjoy music of the 30s and 40s along with contemporary songs as they take you on a sentimental journey through the history of the camp shows. Lamanda Park Branch Library is located at 140 S. Altadena Dr. For more information, phone Lamanda Park Branch Library (626) 744-7266.

## Family Fun Day at La Pintosca

La Pintosca Park and Branch Library will host their annual Family Fun Day, a fun filled day of activities on Saturday, May 28 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Enjoy great food, entertainment, arts and crafts, a skate park competition, disc jockey and more! La Pintosca Branch Library is located at 1355 N. Raymond Ave. For more information, call (626) 744-7268.

## Patticakes' Owner Defends Mural



Patticakes' owner, Mike McLellan

By Dean Lee

Local residents began pouring into an Altadena bakery earlier this week to defend a large brightly colored mural of muffins, cake and coffee on the side of the business after county officials gave the owner 30 days to remove it saying the painting was advertising and out of compliance.

Patticakes' owner, Mike McLellan said the county, in a letter dated April 25, threatened him with six months jail time and a \$1,000 fine for every day the mural stayed up. Each day in violation constitutes a separate violation the letter reads.

"It looks like, of course you have a \$1,000 fine, but on top of that, you got to pay \$2,366 also," he said.

Although McLellan vowed to fight the charge, he said both county officials and members of the Altadena Town Council have been helpful. Town Councilmember Jamie Bissner advised McLellan to bring the issue up at their next regular meeting May 17.

As of Thursday McLellan said

he collected over 200 signatures in favor of the mural. "We got that in about a day and a half," he said. "We have people coming in that have never been in here just because they heard about the issue and wanted to sign the petition."

He said officials told him two complaints led to an investigation of the mural.

McLellan also said the county would charge almost \$9,000 for a variance hearing, money he said he does not have. L.A. County Department of Regional Planning Inspector Jonathan Bell told McLellan he violated two codes (22.52.800 and 22.52.880) dealing with size limits on signs.

McLellan said he paid local artist Bill Madrid \$2,500 for the mural.

"He basically designed the painting," McLellan said. "He came to me to, literally, with a sketch and I said fantastic, go with it."

McLellan said if he is forced to paint over the wall he will paint it bright lime green and purple, "I will make this neighborhood hate that wall."

## Public Invited To Give Input on Next Public Works Director

Pasadena residents and other stakeholders are invited to provide input on the search for the city's next director of public works.

All meetings are from 6:30 to 8 p.m.: Tuesday, May 17, in classroom 3 at Victory Park Center, 2575 Paloma St.; Tuesday, May 31, in the auditorium at Jackie Robinson Center, 1020 N. Fair Oaks Ave.; Thursday, June 7, at La Casita del Arroyo, 177 S. Arroyo Blvd. City Manager Michael J. Beck, who will make the final selection, encourages Pasadenans to participate by voicing their opinions on the ideal qualities the next director of public works should possess and the issues the director should be prepared to undertake.

"I value the opinions of everyone in the community and

look forward to their input," said Beck.

The Public Works Department maintains city parks and street trees, streets and roadways, buildings and vehicles, sewers and storm drains, street lights and traffic signals, and trails, streams and habitats.

The new director will have an opportunity to present a fresh assessment of the department's business practices, systems and customer orientation.

After semi-finalist candidates have been identified, Beck will appoint a community committee to assist him in selecting three to four finalists. He anticipates appointing a new department director by October or November.

For more information call the Pasadena Human Resources Department at (626) 744-4366.

## Citizen Journalism Meet-up

*Learn not just how to blog but how to report the news*



The Pasadena Community Network and this newspaper are holding a workshop on Citizen Journalism.

This group is the place where aspiring journalists can learn from trained professionals and support their local community by covering what's really happening in their neighborhoods.

We will put the news in your hands. Learn how to find the story, the tools needed to capture the story and the

## 'City Beat' Topics: Fire Station 39, Civic Center Project

The closure of Fire Station 39 due to earthquake damage and the Civic Center-Midtown Improvement Project are among the topics on the latest edition of "City Beat" on KPAS and the Internet.

Moderator Ann Erdman is joined by Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard, Crown City News news director Tami DeVine and Mountain Views News editor Dean Lee.

"City Beat" replays Mondays at 2 and 6 p.m., Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m., Wednesdays

at 8:30 a.m., Thursdays at 7 p.m., Fridays at 8:30 p.m., Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

KPAS is on channel 3 on the Charter Communications cable system in Pasadena and channel 99 on AT&T U-Verse. Streaming video of all KPAS programming can be accessed in real time at [www.cityofpasadena.net/publicaffairs](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/publicaffairs) and clicking on the KPAS icon.

For more information about the program call (626) 744-4755.



# ARCADIA

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

## SUMMER CONCERT SERIES CONTROVERSY

### PASADENA SYMPHONY TO PRODUCE SUMMER "POPS" SERIES AT ARBORETUM ASSOCIATION SUCCESSFULLY RESPONDS TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Pasadena, CA – The Pasadena Symphony Association was invited to submit a response to a Request for Proposal (RFP) sent by the Los Angeles County Arboretum in February 2011 as a part of the Arboretum's review of its long-term summer entertainment offerings. Over the course of the next several months, the Pasadena Symphony Association met with the Arboretum representatives to discuss the contents of its proposal.

After a three month competitive process, based on the merit of its submission, the Pasadena Symphony Association was informed that the Arboretum Foundation Board of Directors voted to give the opportunity to begin negotiations of an agreement to the Pasadena Symphony Association.

"We are delighted to have the opportunity to produce not only a Summer POPS Series at the Arboretum beginning in 2012, but at the prospect of presenting an entire summer of entertainment offerings for the San Gabriel Valley which will include concerts for children and families. We have greatly enjoyed our partnership with the Rose Bowl and our ongoing relationship with the City of Pasadena. This summer we look forward to another successful summer season of music-making on the Lawn adjacent the Rose Bowl. We remain committed to offering free music to Pasadena through our annual Music Under The Stars concert on the steps of City Hall. The move to the Arboretum will allow the Pasadena Symphony



and POPS to share its artistic resources to an even wider audience and confirms our commitment to serving the entire San Gabriel Valley community," states Paul Jan Zdunek, Chief Executive Officer of the Pasadena Symphony Association.

As one of the many non-profit organizations within the vast community of Arts ensembles that make up the Southern California collective, the Pasadena Symphony Association remains supportive of all of our colleagues who serve this community. It looks forward to working with a variety of performing organizations as it presents its Summer Series in partnership with the Arboretum beginning in the summer 2012.

### CalPhil protestors lash out

#### From Arcadia's Best

Dozens of picketers stood along Baldwin Avenue at the entrance of the Arboretum Saturday morning just before a 10:15 press conference called by the California Philharmonic Orchestra to vent their shock, frustration, and anger at the Los Angeles County Arboretum's announcement late Wednesday that this will be the last season CalPhil will be the featured orchestra at the Arboretum's summer Festival on the Green outdoor orchestral performances.

The Arboretum has announced that it has entered into negotiations with the Pasadena Symphony Association and Pops to establish a contract to present summer concerts beginning in 2012. Details have not been worked out but Arboretum CEO Richard Schulhof told ArcadiasBest.com today that the move is strictly a business decision that is part of a broader strategic effort by the Arboretum to widen and diversify the offerings at the Arboretum to attract more visitors and more revenue. The Arboretum recently canceled its longstanding and popular L.A. Garden Show because revenue didn't justify the enormous amount of resources and funding required to mount the event. This weekend the Arboretum is hosting a first-time Wild West Days to focus attention on the historical aspects of the Arboretum.

Schulhof said he is considering adding Shakespeare In The Park/Under the Stars performances as well as music events that would appeal to Asian and Hispanic audiences.

But Andre Vener, board member and former CEO of CalPhil, and Robert W. Miller, founding chairman, said there was no logical reason that CalPhil could not have delivered anything

any more than the Pasadena Symphony could offer, except the extremely high-profile name of celebrity Pops conductor Marvin Hamlisch.

CalPhil conductor Victor Vener has his own following, particularly locally, with the six summer concerts typically sold out, drawing about 300,000 people in the 14-years since Vener and CalPhil created the summer concerts in Arcadia. About 40% of the audiences are Arcadians, Vener said in noting his concern and loyalty to the city.

In fact, CalPhil moved its headquarters earlier this year from San Marino to an office at Westfield Santa Anita's Promenade, where CalPhil was featured at the opening of the Promenade a couple years ago. The Arcadia Chamber of Commerce has scheduled a welcome mixer at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 26, at the new CalPhil office on the Promenade. Westfield is one of the primary sponsors and supporters of CalPhil. Andre Vener said CalPhil has not been in contact with Westfield about the situation yet.

Victor Vener said he was particularly concerned about the impact this would have on Arcadians and on local musicians.

Andre Vener said CalPhil is investigating options and hopes to talk with Los Angeles County officials such as County Supervisor Michael Antonovich and director Russ Guiney. But no legal action such as a lawsuit is being contemplated at this time.

Schulhof emphasized that he had nothing but respect for CalPhil and all that they have done at the Arboretum and that he looks forward to another great summer season with the CalPhil Festival On the Green concerts starting in June.

– By Scott Hettrick

### Arcadia CINCO DE MAYO PAIRS TOURNAMENT

The Santa Anita Bowling Green Club held their May Floy Torvid Pairs Tournament on the 5th. It was a hot and muggy day but 12 avid lawn bowlers showed up and competed for the prizes.

Format for the Floy Torvid tournament is easy. One game of 12 ends, eat lunch and play another game of 12 ends to wrap up the day. It usually starts around 9 AM and on the 5th it was over by 1:30 PM.

Taking top prize was the duo of Dewey Tse and Jim Miller. Second place was the team of Mari Rambo and Sandy Dalzell. Third slot went to Irene Mastro and Juanita Jones and fourth was Shuman Chan and Fred Robles. Two other teams didn't finish in the money but they tried. They were Dick Ashmore and Gene Plunkett and the other one Houdini HO and Mattie Miller.

The Pairs tournament was a warm up for the Open House held on the 7th of May. All of the Southwest Lawn Bowls Association clubs held an Open House on the 7th, hoping to increase their memberships and make the public aware of the best kept secret in the sporting world. One new member at the Santa Anita club said he walked by the greens area for 41 years and never realized what was going on. This is why the clubs held their Open Houses on the 7th.

If you think lawn bowling could peak your interest go to the club's website: [www.lawnbowling-arcadia.com](http://www.lawnbowling-arcadia.com) and get more information than you ever thought you'd need. If you don't have a computer, give Gene Plunkett a call at 626 351 5327 and he can give you all the information about free lessons and how you can become a champion in a very short time.



L to R. Dewey Tse and Jim Miller are all smiles after winning the Floy Torvid Pairs Tournament at the Santa Anita Bowling Green facility on Cinco de Mayo. You too can be a winner by learning to lawn bowl. Give it a try. (Photo by Gene Plunkett)

## Arcadia Police Blotter

For the period of Sunday, April 24, through Saturday, April 30, the Police Department responded to 866 calls for service of which 108 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

#### Sunday, April 24:

A traffic stop conducted around 1:00 a.m., on Live Oak and El Capitan Avenue, led to the arrest of the driver. A 35-year-old Hispanic male was taken into custody for possession of marijuana and hydrocodone pills.

Shortly before 7:00 p.m., officers were dispatched to the 400 block of North Altura Road regarding a suspicious vehicle parked in the area. A records check of the 47-year-old Filipino male revealed two misdemeanor warrants totaling \$70,000 in bail. The man was placed under arrest for the warrants.

#### Monday, April 25:

3. At about 11:45 a.m., a suspect armed with a handgun stole money from a man working as a handyman on the 300 block of North Altura Road and fled in a grey SUV. The suspect and his getaway driver then drove to Pasadena where they committed four more armed robberies within minutes of each other. Pasadena Officers found the suspect vehicle and the robbery suspects, a 29-year-old Hispanic male and a 22-year-old Hispanic male, who were detained and subsequently taken into custody. The victim in our incident was able to positively identify the gunman, the weapon and the suspect vehicle as the ones at the scene on Altura Road.

4. Around 6:00 p.m., officers responded to the 600 block of East Camino Grove Avenue in regard to a suspicious circumstances report. Three male subjects were seen entering the driveway of a house that was tented for fumigation. Two Hispanic juveniles ages 16 and 15 as well as an 18-year-old Hispanic male were taken into custody for residential burglary.

#### Tuesday, April 26:

5. Shortly before 11:00 a.m., an officer was dispatched to the 1900 block of South Santa Anita Avenue in regard to a suspicious circumstances report. An 85-year-old female of unknown race reported that at approximately 10:00 a.m. that morning an unknown adult Hispanic male knocked on her front door and stated he was a water company employee. He further stated that there had been a break in one of the city's water lines and he needed to check the water supply in her home for contamination. The subject was allowed into the residence and was escorted throughout the home by the resident. Once the subject left the location, the resident called the water company who verified they had not had any line breaks nor had they sent anyone to her home. Due to several reported residential burglaries in the neighboring cities with the same circumstances, a composite of the subject was completed and a press release was produced in conjunction with West Covina PD as an advisory.

6. A traffic stop was conducted shortly before 11:00 a.m. in the 200 block of West Camino Real for expired license plates. A records check of the driver revealed he had three active misdemeanor warrants. An inventory check of the vehicle further revealed methamphetamine as well as a glass pipe. The 24-year-old Hispanic male was placed under arrest for the warrants, possession of a controlled substance, as well as the possession

of drug paraphernalia.

#### Wednesday, April 27:

7. Shortly after 6:00 a.m., units responded to the 1000 block of West Huntington Drive regarding a possible suicidal subject. The 43-year-old male of unknown race was transported to Kaiser Permanente for a psychiatric evaluation.

8. Between 12:00 p.m. and 1:40 p.m., a residential burglary occurred in the 1200 block of Greenfield Avenue. Unknown suspect(s) pried open the back door. Once inside, the suspect(s) ransacked the master bedroom and stole a firearm for an approximate loss of \$400.

#### Thursday, April 28:

9. Shortly after 12:00 p.m., officers were dispatched to a traffic collision on West Huntington Drive and Golden West Avenue. Upon investigation, one of the involved parties, a 70-year-old Hispanic male, was found to be intoxicated and placed under arrest for driving under the influence.

10. About 3:00 p.m., units responded to 1401 South First Avenue (Dana Middle School) in regards to a student that brandished a knife at another student off school grounds. The 11-year-old Asian male, was placed under arrest for exhibiting a deadly weapon and later released to the custody of his parents.

#### Friday, April 29:

11. Between 12:00 p.m. April 20th and 9:30 a.m. April 29th, a commercial burglary occurred in the 1100 block of South Baldwin Avenue. A citizen reported that a check mailed for a bill never reached its destination. Through on-line banking the citizen discovered the same check had been altered and deposited in the amount of \$4800.00. An investigation revealed that the subject who deposited the check also resided in the same complex. A 35-year-old Asian male was placed under arrest for burglary, grand theft, forgery and passing a fictitious check.

12. Shortly after 1:00 p.m., a residential burglary occurred in the 500 block of East Longden Avenue. A witness reported three Black males climbing over a fence and into the rear yard of the property, while a vehicle circled the block. The subjects then exited the location, entered the vehicle and drove out of sight. An area check was conducted for the vehicle and suspects, however, they were not located. A check of the residence revealed a pried front door but no property appeared to be missing.

#### Saturday, April 30:

13. At approximately 12:15 p.m., units were dispatched to Santa Clara Street and Second Avenue regarding a non-injury traffic collision. An investigation revealed that one of the involved parties was an unlicensed 17-year-old Hispanic female who had taken her mother's car without permission. She was placed under arrest for driving without a license as well as taking a vehicle without the owner's consent.

14. Between 8:00 p.m. April 29th and 4:45 p.m. April 30th, an auto burglary occurred in the 100 block of South Santa Anita Avenue. Unknown suspect(s) entered the vehicle, with no signs of forced entry. The suspect(s) stole a GPS unit, a flashlight and miscellaneous music CDs for an approximate loss of \$450.

### City of Arcadia 2011 Summer Swim Program

The City of Arcadia Recreation & Community Services Department will begin the summer swim program on Saturday, June 11 at the Arcadia High School Pool, located at 180 Campus Drive in Arcadia. The pool will open at 1pm and close at 5pm.

Swim lessons for Session One will begin on Monday, June 13th. Online registration is now underway by logging onto "http://www.ci.arcadia.ca.us" www.ci.arcadia.ca.us

Walk-in registration for Session I begins Monday, May 9th at the Recreation Department, located at 375 Campus Drive. For more information regarding swim classes and the online and walk-in registration dates for Sessions 2-5, please call 626.574.5113.

### What's On YOUR Mind? What Do YOU Think?

We'd like to hear from you! Contact us at: [editor@mtnviewsnews.com](mailto:editor@mtnviewsnews.com) OR



[www.facebook.com/mountainviewsnews](http://www.facebook.com/mountainviewsnews)

### Arcadia / 210 SELF STORAGE 50% off 2 months rent



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PH 626-574-2020  
FX 626-574-0023

### ROOM TO RUN™ Dog Park Appreciation Project

**WHAT:**  
The Nutro Company's ROOM TO RUN™ Dog Park Appreciation Project



To support community dog parks and off-leash areas, The Nutro Company has teamed up with the City of Arcadia to host the ROOM TO RUN™ Dog Park Appreciation Project on May 7, 2011. Led by associates from The Nutro Company in partnership with City of Arcadia and members of the community, the ROOM TO RUN™ Project is a nationwide effort to enhance and revitalize dog parks in 30 cities across the U.S. and Canada. This year the dog park in Arcadia has been chosen to be a part of the program. Last year, volunteers spent more than 1,500 man hours improving parks in their communities. So, roll up your sleeves and come join us this year!

ROOM TO RUN™ projects will vary by location, but park projects may include painting fences, providing benches, picking up trash and landscaping. In an effort to focus on enhancements and for the safety of the dogs, pet owners may want to consider leaving their four-legged pals at home during the enhancements and bring them to the park following the event.

**WHERE:** Arcadia Dog Park (Eisenhower Park) located on the corner of Colorado Boulevard and Second Avenue

**WHO:** Local community of dog owners (and lovers!) and The Nutro Company & the City of Arcadia's Recreation and Community Services Department

**WHEN:** May 7, 2011  
Check in begins at 8am, event is from 9am to 12pm

### BSACPA ANNUAL BREAKFAST – PUBLIC WELCOME!

The Big Santa Anita Canyon Permittees' Association (BSACPA) is holding their annual Cabin Owner's Breakfast on Saturday, May 14, from 9am to 11am, at Adams' Pack Station, Chantry Flat (at the top of Santa Anita Avenue/Santa Anita Canyon Road). The BSACPA is an organization of those who own cabins in the Canyon, works to keep trails maintained, and helps to educate the public to canyon safety.

This is the first year that the event has been open to the public. Cost is \$9.50 for adults and \$7.50 for children under the age of 10. The menu will consist of eggs, hash browns, sausage, veggie sausage, pancakes, fruit, juice, coffee, tea and all the fixings. Plates and utensils are supplied.

If you've hiked the Big Santa Anita Canyon and been curious about the cabins you've seen by the trail and nestled among the oak, bay, and alder trees along the trail, this is the opportunity to meet and speak with many of the cabin owners, as well as learn more about Adams' Pack Station. These privately owned cabins were constructed individually from the 1890s through the mid-1920s. There are 81 still standing today, all that remain of the approximately 350 original cabins. They are privately owned, and under the terms of the Forest Service lease, the owners are not permitted to rent them.

Accessible only by foot, just as they were a hundred years ago, few have any of the modern amenities many of us take for granted, such as electricity, central heat, or piped-in water for example, or indoor plumbing. There is, however, the original telephone system of sorts that has been in operation for over sixty years: a single line hand crank 6-volt battery operated system that runs between Sturtevant Camp and Chantry Flat. It is not part of the modern worldwide communications network by any means.

Visitors to the canyon sometimes see pack animals being led along the trail. The pack station at Chantry Flat has been in business since the 1930s, hauling supplies in to the original mountain camps and the cabins by horse and mule train. This is the second pack station; the original one being in Sierra Madre, but when the road to Chantry Flat was constructed in the 1930s, that station was discontinued. Without a road in the upper canyon there is no other way to bring in or haul out large or bulky items. Visitors to the pack station can visit with the resident mules, goats, chickens, and barn cats.

There will also be a fund-raising raffle held at 10:30am for a variety of items donated by the cabin owners and friends of BSACPA. Tickets will be on sale at \$1.00 each or 7 tickets for \$5.00. Parking is available in one of the three Forest Service Lots (with an Adventure Pass).

Anyone interested in attending, please RSVP to BSACPA no later than May 9th at [BSACPA\\_events@yahoo.com](mailto:BSACPA_events@yahoo.com), or call Tina at (909) 770-5700, x247.



# MONROVIA - DUARTE

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

## Duarte's Promise and Local Volunteers Plant Native Oaks on Duarte Trail in Honor of AmeriCorps Week

DUARTE, CA – Members of Duarte's Promise – The Alliance for Youth will help 30 volunteers from Keller Williams Real Estate plant native oak trees along the Duarte multi-purpose trail and around the 102 year-old Oak Avenue Bridge. The service project will take place at 8:30 a.m. on May 12 in conjunction with National AmeriCorps Week (May 14-21) and Keller Williams Real Estate RED Day (Renew, Energize and Donate) community service initiative.

AmeriCorps provides opportunities for more than 80,000 citizens across the nation, including seven AmeriCorps Fellows serving at Duarte City Hall, Duarte Public Safety, Duarte Teen Center, Santa Anita Family YMCA, and the Football Unity Center. In this contract year alone, fel-

lows have provided over 8,000 hours of service to Duarte and its surrounding areas. AmeriCorps members of Duarte have also earned more than \$100,000 in Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards to help pay for college or pay back student loans since the program's inception in 2000.

Mayor Tzeitel Paras-Caracci, in proclaiming AmeriCorps Week in Duarte, urged citizens to thank AmeriCorps members and alumni for their service and to find ways to give back to their communities.

*For more information about AmeriCorps opportunities in Duarte and Duarte's Promise – The Alliance for Youth, contact: Deputy City Manager, Karen Herrera at (626) 357-7931, ext. 221.*

## Duarte Schools and Businesses Honored for Recycling Programs with LARA San Gabriel Valley Green Awards

DUARTE, CA – Two Duarte schools and two Duarte businesses were recognized for their outstanding recycling programs by the Los Angeles Regional Agency (LARA) at the annual San Gabriel Valley Green Awards presented May 4 at the Garvey Community Center in Rosemead.

Among organizations honored were Duarte Unified School District's Valley View Elementary School and Mt. Olive High School, and Duarte businesses Fresh & Easy and We Pack It All.

LARA is a consortium of 17 member cities in Los Angeles County, which includes the City of Duarte, whose mission is to assist members in meeting and exceeding the 50% waste diversion mandates of State Assembly Bill 939. The diversion rate of the LARA consortium is currently 75%.

Valley View Elementary School was honored for its various school-wide recycling programs that encourage the entire school community to participate. Recyclables collected each week include four large bins of paper, as well as bottles, cans, cafeteria cereal bowls and juice pouches. In addition, cafeteria food scraps are composted to help enrich the soil in the school's educational garden. Valley View has also recently added a worm compost that uses food scraps to make worm tea for the garden.

Mt. Olive High School students have become champions of the environment through the in-

novative and award-winning Mt. Olive Outdoor Science Experience (MOOSE) program. Students plant native foliage, perform ongoing upkeep of the pond ecosystem and garden, conduct field experiments and observations, construct raised beds, build solar water features and run drip irrigation. The main focus of MOOSE is to teach students and the community how to solve some of the world's current environmental challenges through water conservation, vermiculture, organic farming, urban horticulture, ethnobotany and recycling while training them for green careers.

We Pack It All, a co-packer company, utilizes certified organic materials for packing. Materials left over from packing are recycled. The company recycles an average of 67,200 lbs of cardboard a month and another 50,000 pounds of cardboard bundles at the end of the year, as well as 2,560 lbs of pallets a month; four 40 yard bins a month in recycled plastic, two 3 yard bins of paper a month, and 1,200 pounds of foil backing a year.

Fresh & Easy, which opened its doors in Duarte in January 2009, recycles or reuses all its shipping and display materials and uses environmentally-friendly trailers to transport food. The company is a pilot member of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Volume Certification Program and has invested in a 500,000 square foot solar roof installation on its distribution center.

## Monrovia Police Blotter

*During the last seven day period, the Police Department handled 578 service events, resulting in 101 investigations. Following are the last week's highlighted issues and events:*

### Grand Theft Auto

On April 22 at 9:09 a.m., an officer was dispatched to a parking lot in the 1600 block of South Myrtle regarding a stolen vehicle. The victim reported that he parked his vehicle in the lot at approximately 5 a.m. on April 21. He returned to his vehicle that same day at 6 p.m. and found it missing. No broken glass was found on the ground where it was parked. He waited a day to make the report as he did not know the license plate number of his vehicle.

### Grand Theft Auto

On April 22 at 12:11 a.m., an officer responded to the parking lot of a business in the 3300 block of South Peck regarding a stolen vehicle report. The victim parked his vehicle in the parking lot at 11:30 a.m. and went into the business. He returned to his car at 12 p.m. and found it missing. There was no broken glass on the ground where it was parked. The vehicle is a red, 1989 Toyota Cressida with over-wide tires, spoke rims and tinted windows.

### Petty Theft - Suspects Arrested

On April 22 at 1:01 p.m., police responded to the report of a petty theft at a business in the 500 block of West Huntington. Loss prevention officers saw a male subject grab and conceal cologne and perfume on his person. The suspect walked outside where he met with a female subject. Loss prevention officers followed at a distance and provided the direction of travel to police. Officers located and detained the suspect. The female did not take part in the theft, but was arrested for two outstanding no-bail felony warrants. The male suspect, who was found to be on parole, was identified by loss prevention and arrested for theft.

### Medical Assist

On April 22 at 10:57 p.m., officers were dispatched to a residence in the 800 block of Naples regarding a male subject having a heart attack. Upon arrival, officers found the subject unconscious. The officers examined the subject and discovered he was not breathing and had no pulse. The officers administered the defibrillator and revived the subject. He was taken to a hospital for treatment. At last check, the subject was recovering in the hospital.

### Burglary

On April 23 at 10:48 a.m., an officer was sent to an apartment complex in the 400 block of West Duarte on the report of a burglary. The apartment complex is under construction and some windows were left open for ventilation. The suspect(s) entered an apartment through a kitchen window and removed a dish washer. They left the location unnoticed.

### Vehicle Burglary

On April 25 at 5:31 p.m., an officer went to the 300 block of West Lemon regarding a vehicle burglary. The victim parked and secured her vehicle in the alley behind her residence. She returned to the vehicle and saw the interior had been ransacked. She checked her vehicle but could not determine if anything had been taken. There were no obvious signs of forced entry.

### Attempted Grand Theft Auto

On April 26 at 12:35 a.m., a resident in the 700 block of South Fifth heard his car engine start. The victim looked outside and saw someone backing his car out of the driveway. The vehicle became stuck when it hit a wall. A male suspect exited the vehicle and fled on foot. An area search was conducted by officers, but the suspect was not located. The victim had left his keys in the unlocked car.

### Probation Sweep - Two Subjects Arrested

On April 26, Monrovia Special Enforcement Team officers and Los Angeles County Probation officers conducted probation checks at two locations in Monrovia. The first was in the 300 block of East Altern. The subject was home and put up some resistance to being arrested. He was charged with delaying officers, probation violation, and possession of a controlled substance. The second location was in the 2100 block of Redell. The subject was home, but hiding in the residence. He was located and arrested. He was charged with probation violation and several no-bail warrants.

### Grand Theft

On April 26 at 10:10 a.m., an officer responded to an apartment complex in the 700 block of South Myrtle. The victim reported two expensive bicycles were taken from the public garage. Both bicycles were secured with the same chain and lock. The chain was cut and the suspect(s) took the bicycles.

### Grand Theft Auto

On April 27 at 12:39 p.m., an officer responded to a business parking lot in the 1600 block of South Mountain. The victim is an employee of the business and had parked his truck in the lot and secured it. He was away from his vehicle between 10:30 a.m. and 12 p.m. The vehicle is a white, 2000, extended-cab Chevy Silverado with a camper shell.

### Attempt Burglary

On April 27 at 2:46 p.m., an officer went to the 100 block of East Cypress on the report of a burglary. Two windows had been broken to the rear of the residence. One of the windows is to the kitchen and the other is to the living room. There were pry marks on the window frame. Fortunately, entry was not made and there was no loss.

### Commercial Burglary

On April 27 at 3:32 p.m., a business in the 600 block of West Huntington reported a burglary. An employee doing inventory had discovered numerous items of store merchandise missing. He reviewed surveillance video and saw four women, early 20s to approximately 60 years old, working in concert stealing merchandise on April 17, 2011. Investigation continuing.

### Residential Burglary

On April 27 at 4:44 p.m., a resident in the 300 block of West Lime reported that someone had broken into their home. The victim was away from the residence from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. When she returned, she went inside and discovered items missing. She then noticed the east facing kitchen window had been broken. The suspect(s) used a piece of red brick to break the window and made entry; they exited through the same window.

## New Drop Off Locations for Duarte Clean-Up, E Waste Round-Up May 7

DUARTE, CA – Duarte residents can dispose of large refuse items and electronic waste on Saturday, May 7 by bringing those items to collection sites at Duarte City Hall, 1600 Huntington Dr., and Beardslee Elementary School, 1212 Kellwill Way in Duarte. Southern California Edison is also offering a refrigerator/freezer collection on the same day. Residents can schedule their

pick-up by calling (800) 234-9722.

Appointments are made on a first come, first serve basis.

For more information about how to participate in the Duarte Community Clean-Up Day and E-Waste Round-Up, call Duarte City Hall at (626) 357-7931, ext. 221 or visit the City's website at: <http://www.accessduarte.com>

## Kiwanis Club News

### Kiwanians Travel to Nicaragua to Support Needy Children

Reyna Diaz, Board Member of Duarte Kiwanis Club and of the school district of the city of Duarte, California, is visiting the Foundation Abandoned Children of Nicaragua [www.abandonedchildren.org](http://www.abandonedchildren.org). Reyna and her husband, Ruben along with fellow Kiwanian and School Board President, Pam Kawasaki are coming to provide a of donation of 3 computers. They will also attend a reception for the Children in the center of protection in the city of Managua.

One of the objectives of the Duarte Kiwanis Club is to visit the center and see the work they are doing. The Duarte Kiwanis Club has taken the responsibility to deliver the computers directly to the center and to see the work of the center in helping the children of the street Nicaraguans.

Personalities and businessmen Nicaraguans are

*From the desk of the City Manager...*

## Power Outage Affects Homes and Businesses

On late Thursday afternoon, the lights flickered and the computer monitors and phones went dead. A significant power outage (primarily affecting the area from Mountain to Myrtle, Lime to Colorado) gave us a nice earthquake drill, but also pointed out some weaknesses in the system. Specifically, this wasn't a disaster - not even close. It was an unscheduled interruption in service that affected a significant area, but it certainly wouldn't have warranted even a partial activation of the Emergency Operations Center.

Granted, we don't operate the electrical system (Southern California Edison does) and SCE did a great job of responding immediately. Still, this outage - coming prior to the really hot weather in July and August - pointed out that we need to develop a better message to residents about the integration of the overall power grid. For example, as SCE tried to replace the blown transformer, folks

who were just coming home from what was one of the warmer days that we've had in a while, likely turned on the A/C, the plasma screen, etc. This placed additional strain on the already disabled system, which made it more difficult for SCE to complete the repairs. The system was mostly functional by the evening; still, we will work with SCE on a better and more cohesive communication for these less-than-traumatic outage situations.

So, what caused the outage? Darn Mylar balloons. They got caught in the lines near the California-Jasmine Avenue neighborhood and caused the transformer to blow. The power lines actually ended up on the ground. Fire and Police units responded immediately; however, we are fortunate that no one was hurt. Mylar balloons - don't buy them. Get your special someone a book, or a card, or savings bond - just no more metallic balloons.

## Economic Recession Ebbing...but Slowly

On Monday, April 25, the City of Monrovia held its annual CEO Roundtable and Commercial/Industrial Brokers Reception. We hold this annual meeting as one way of connecting with Monrovia's larger businesses and employers. Monrovia casts a long shadow as a place to do business. We are home to such companies' regional and international headquarters as Trader Joe's, Aerovironment, Staar Surgical, Unitek Miyachi, The Original Tommy's hamburgers, Worley Parsons and Green Dot; and we feature significant investments by the City of Hope, Ducommun Aerostructures and Genzyme, to name but a few. Additionally, we hold an annual meeting with the commercial and industrial brokers as a method of outreach and collaboration; after all, the brokers and the City have a shared interest in promoting Monrovia.

Our featured speaker on Monday evening was Dr. Nancy Sidhu, the Chief Economist of the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC). Dr. Sidhu provided a range of statistics and data that indicated that the devastating economic recession was easing. However, the optimism was moderated by the fact that housing, construction and government employment were still significant drags on the recovery. The good news is that even the default housing market appears to have bottomed-out; and once those REO units are

absorbed, the new construction market can begin to recover in earnest. Dr. Sidhu also noted that travel and leisure, entertainment and international trade were helping lead the way on recovery; however, she noted that most every sector in the economy (save housing, construction and government) were growing again. Unemployment is still a drag on the LA County economy, yet the mild rebound reflects the number and types of jobs that were lost in the recession - especially in the financial services sector.

Given the increase in activity we have seen in Monrovia - the relative lack of commercial vacancies in our office buildings, the steady business among our restaurants and retailers and the stabilization of the housing market - I believe that we are indeed emerging from recession. What's more, I believe our economic diversity will bring us back sooner than most and stronger than most. The City Council has made diversification of our economic base a priority, and truly it is proving a saving grace.

Lastly, thanks and congratulations to the R/ED Team for executing the event flawlessly. Monday was a great reminder to our companies that doing business in Monrovia is unlike - and better than - doing business elsewhere; and to our brokers that they have a real and true partner in the City of Monrovia.



# Monrovia Day Celebrations!

**Saturday, May 14th, 2011**

## Cupcake Contest

Monrovia residency not required.

**Special Celebrity Judge Peter Dills!**

Entry deadline 2 PM. Judging 2:30 PM at Paint N Play - 400 Blk. S. Myrtle Ave.

**Download entry form at: [www.OldTownMonroviaCA.com](http://www.OldTownMonroviaCA.com)**

**Enter as many times as you like!**

*Please provide 6 cupcakes for each entry.*

**Rules: Be creative, make 'em home made and have fun!**


**Two great catagories: Filled & Unfilled**

**Prizes for Best Overall & Best Appearance**

**In each category: Taste & Originality**

[www.OldTownMonroviaCA.com](http://www.OldTownMonroviaCA.com) Myrtle Ave. exit from the 210 freeway. Parking is always free.






# 1 free yoga class

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New students only.  
Limited time offer.

### MONROVIA CALENDAR –

**Thurs., May 12, 7 p.m. - Monrovia Day Parade**

**Sat., May 14, 7 a.m. - MFD Fire Service Day/Pancake Breakfast, 141 E. Lemon Avenue**

**Sat., May 14, 7 a.m. - Fountain to Falls Run/Walk**

**Sat., May 14, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. - Monrovia Day Festivities; Library Park**

**Tues., May 17, 7:30 p.m. - City Council Meeting**





STATE OF  
EMERGENCY

www.castateofemergency.com

California is in a “State of Emergency”  
over the drastic cuts hurting our public schools, colleges and communities.

Our neighborhood schools in Altadena, Pasadena, and Sierra Madre are suffering from drastic state budget cuts. California public schools and colleges have been cut over \$20 billion in the last three years; 30,000 teachers were laid off. This year we stand to lose another 20,000 teachers and \$2-\$4 billion more in budget cuts. In the Pasadena Unified School District, we stand to lose \$700 per student – on top of the \$32 million we cut in the last four years. Our schools will lose the people and programs that have raised student achievement.

How can we provide *all* PUSD students the quality education they deserve when class sizes are increasing; music, art and sports programs slashed; and computer labs, libraries and schools are being shut down? Education is vital for the future of California and our democracy. **Raise your voice to make things better for your PUSD school and for the future of California.**



RAISE YOUR VOICE FOR PUSD KIDS MAY 9 – 13, 2011!

CALL	EMAIL	ATTEND
<b>Your Legislators</b> <b>888.268.4334</b>	<b>Your Legislators at</b> <b>castateofemergency.com</b>	<b>A rally to prevent deeper cuts!</b> Rally @ Pershing Square (5th & Olive in downtown L.A.)  Friday, May 13 at 4:00 p.m.
Urge your lawmakers to pass a budget that protects our schools, colleges and essential public services from further cuts.		
Go to <a href="http://www.castateofemergency.com">www.castateofemergency.com</a> for more information.		

Hall Pass  
Looking Into The Life Of A Teenager  
By Meaghan Allen  
OLD FRIENDS

I remember what I got for my seventh birthday very clearly. I remember standing in line to get it, and how excited I felt. I was going to be the coolest kid at school, hands down. My dad got me a season pass to Six Flags Magic Mountain, along with one for himself. For the remainder of the school year, on Tuesday, my dad would pick me up after school and we would drive 45 minutes to Valencia, belting “Two Tickets to Paradise” by Eddie Money. Before entering the park we would eat at the Wendy’s down the hill, filling our stomachs with baked potatoes, French fries, and chicken nuggets. We would then enter the park and head straight for Revolution – the park’s first loop-de-loop roller coaster. Those are some of my best memories because not every kid can say ‘I went to Six Flags every Tuesday in

second grade.’ This past spring break when I went to Six Flags with my friends, it was like I was visiting a long-time friend.

When we arrived I didn’t realize how many people were going to be there, because we had special passes that let us exclusively into the park from 6 to midnight. Despite all the people and the long lines, my friends and I had a blast. Going on the log ride at night is so much more different than during the day, and we also got absolutely soaked, a first for me. But the best part was going on Goliath again. My dad’s and my favorite, Goliath is the best ride in the park. Reaching a speed of 85 mph, I was afraid that Goliath would disappoint, but didn’t. The first drop still made my stomach fly and scream in excitement. Six Flags was as great as I remembered.

FREE E-WASTE  
RECYCLING

All California RESIDENTS  
and BUSINESSES Welcome

Where: **Sierra Madre Middle School**  
160 N. Canon Ave. “Upper Campus”  
When: **Saturday, May 14, 2011**  
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

This service proudly brought to you by  
**Sierra Madre Middle School**  
and **NeuWaste Business Recycling**.

Businesses looking to contribute material to this event that are unavailable during school hours may contact NMR to schedule a pick-up.  
**(310) 734-6700**  
E-mail: [info@neuwaste.com](mailto:info@neuwaste.com)

**www.NeuWaste.com**

Neuwaste Business Recycling is a State-Approved E-Waste Collector  
E-Waste Recycling is a California State-Funded Program  
License #105532

ELECTRONIC  
ITEMS ACCEPTED

Televisions  
Monitors  
Computers  
Computer Components  
Fax Machines  
Printers  
Copiers  
Toner Cartridges  
Inkjet Cartridges  
Wire  
Video Game Consoles  
Laptops  
Cameras  
Camcorders  
Internet Devices  
Keyboards  
Mice  
MP3 Players  
VCRs & DVDs  
Cell Phones  
Telephone Equipment  
Please keep these items away from our roadsides, oceans and the landfills.

Life's Lessons from  
Your Mother

By Bryan Golden

Your mother tried to teach you some valuable lessons. Moms have a unique ability to impart essential wisdom. Unfortunately, most of us were too young to really appreciate their value. Mother’s Day is a great time to review the following advice you got when you were a kid.

*You can be whatever you want to be.*

*You have no limitations.* The whole world is open to you.

*Your future is ahead of you.* You can accomplish whatever you set your mind to. It’s ok to dream.

*Be nice to your friends and they will be nice to you.* People respond to the way you treat them. If you are mean and selfish, no one will want to play with you. Share your toys and don’t be a bully. Be considerate of the feelings of others.

*Do your homework and you will get good grades.* Success takes work. If you don’t put in the effort, you won’t reap the rewards. Those who work hard will succeed.

*Clean your room now.* Get things done today and you won’t have to worry about them. If you let things pile up, it will be difficult to catch up. You can play once your chores are done.

*Get your work done before you take a break.* Then you can relax and have a good time.

*Stay in school.* If you don’t get an education, your opportunities will be limited. Don’t drop out of school. The more you learn, the more you benefit.

*Sticks and stones will break your bones but names will never hurt you.* It doesn’t matter what other people say. Don’t allow others to upset you. There will always be mean people. Don’t pay attention to them.

*Don’t waste your time.* Time goes by very fast. Don’t wait to pursue your dreams. Be thankful for what you have.

*There are many who are not as fortunate as you.* Be grateful for your home and family. It doesn’t matter what someone else has.

*Don’t complain.* Whining is annoying. If you have something to say, say it. If you complain all the time, no one will want to listen to you.

Bryan is the author of “Dare to Live Without Limits.” Visit [www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com](http://www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com) or your bookstore. Bryan is a self-development expert, syndicated columnist, and professor. E-mail Bryan at [bryan@columnist.com](mailto:bryan@columnist.com).



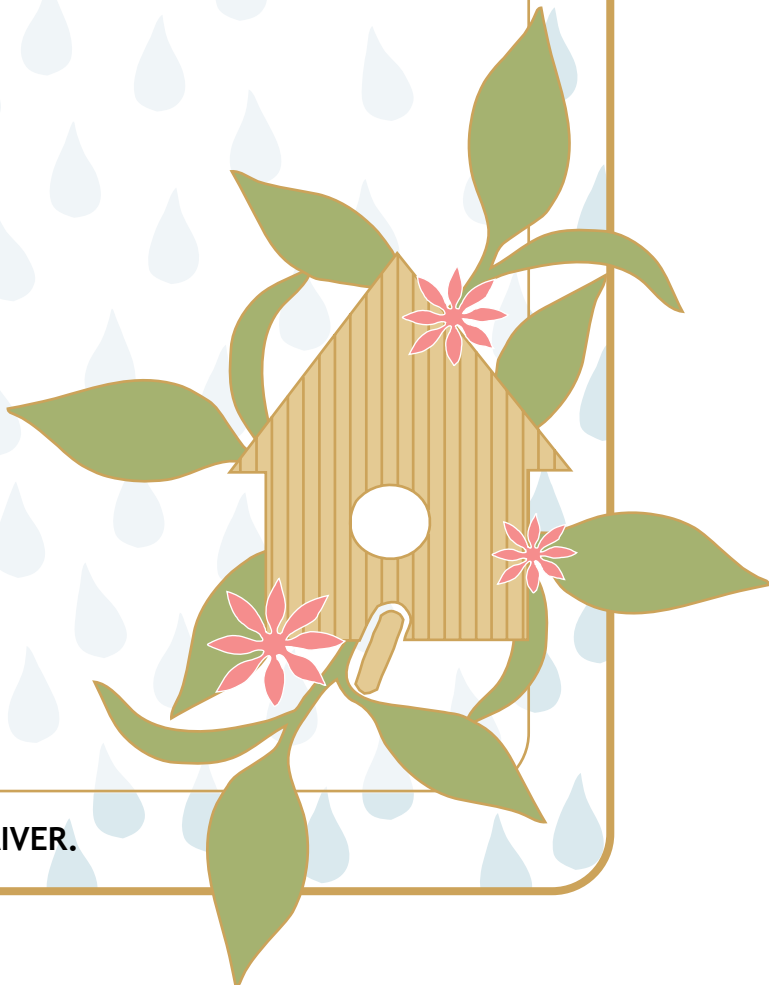
“BIG SUNDAY”  
Work Day  
SATURDAY

May 14, 2011, 8a.m. - 3:30p.m.  
1435 N. Raymond Avenue  
Pasadena, CA 91103

If you are at least 18 years old, you could help to give the **Alkebulan Cultural Center** a needed facelift by volunteering for the Big Sunday Work Day event. Your energy is requested for painting and other work to improve this jewel in the community.

Please let us know that you will be there, no later than **5/10/11**, - 626/794-9570 or [alkebulan1435@sbcglobal.net](mailto:alkebulan1435@sbcglobal.net) and show up on May14 ready to work.

ALL VOLUNTEERS MUST SIGN A WAIVER.





## RENATTA COOPER, ED HONOWITZ SELECTED TO LEAD PUSD BOARD

### Cooper Elected President, Honowitz Vice President

Pasadena, CA – The Board of Education of the Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) voted to elect Renatta Cooper Board President for the 2011-12 school year, and Ed Honowitz as Vice President at the annual organizational meeting on Monday. Tom Selinske, who was re-elected this year, and newly-elected Board member Kim Kenne, were sworn in.

"I thank my colleagues for supporting me to lead the Board in what will be a challenging year as we face severe funding reductions and a shift in leadership," said Cooper. "I am hopeful that we will be able to work together towards providing all students in the district with the knowledge and skills they will need to succeed in the future."

Cooper, who was first elected to the Board in 2007, formerly taught graduate-level child development programs at



Renatta Cooper

Pacific Oaks College, and has been a member of the First 5 Los Angeles Board of Commissioners.

Board members also selected Ed Honowitz to serve in the role of Vice President.

"I am honored to serve in the position of Vice President," said Honowitz. "It will be a challenging

year, given our budget constraints and the search for a new Superintendent, but our focus must remain on improving and maintaining the programs that have accelerated student achievement."

First elected to the Board of Education in 2001, Honowitz served as President of the Board for two years. He is an alumnus of Pasadena public



Ed Honowitz

schools and his children have attended PUSD schools. A founding member of the Community Coalition for Quality Public Schools in Pasadena, a community based group of parents and citizens working to improve local schools, Honowitz has served as chair of the Five Star Coalition, a collaborative of five local school districts serving over 70,000 students in Burbank, Glendale, La Canada, Pasadena and South Pasadena. He has been elected twice to serve as a member of the California School

Boards Association delegate assembly and is a member of the CSBA state legislative committee.

The Board members also thanked Bob Harrison, who served as President in 2010-2011. The PUSD Board elected its officers at the annual organizational meeting on Monday, May 2. The new officers will assume their positions immediately.

## PASADENA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION OFFERS K-8 SUMMER ENRICHMENT AND HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER PROGRAM

Registration for eighth-annual program is now open to all area K-8 and high school students. It takes place July 5 to Aug. 5, 2011.

While the state budget crisis continues to slash some school programs, the Pasadena Educational Foundation's eighth-annual Summer Enrichment Program is bigger than ever, with a wide variety of academic and creative classes offered this year on five PUSD campuses. Students entering kindergarten through high school, whether registered in the PUSD or not, can join the popular program that runs July 5 through Aug. 4 (Monday through Thursday) with five weeks of classes at PUSD's Franklin, Norma Coombs, and Willard elementary schools, and at Wilson Middle School. This year's high school program takes place at Marshall Fundamental High School July 5 through Aug. 5, Monday through Friday.

Students in the K-8 program can delve into such diverse subjects as robotics, music, cooking, math, science, and foreign language. Younger students prepare for elementary school through the "Intro to Kindergarten" and "Intro to First Grade" classes. Students already enrolled in or about to start language immersion programs can reinforce language skills in the Spanish or Mandarin Language Immersion classes.

## "Girls Lead" Awards Recognize the Leadership of Middle School Girls

Photos by Belle n' Beau

Twenty-six middle school leaders gathered with their families and teachers in the ballroom of the historic Alverno Villa for the 2011 Alverno High School "Girls Lead" awards. This new tradition recognizes 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls who are making a difference through leadership in the community or their schools.

"As you know, at Alverno we pride ourselves on guiding girls to discover their leadership potential," says Ann Gillick, Alverno Head of School. "The purpose of 'Girls Lead' is to recognize and encourage young women who are already making their mark in middle school."

Teachers and principals from independent, Catholic, and public middle schools were asked to nominate one girl each from their 7<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes to be recognized.

The speaker was Sierra Madre Police Chief Marilyn Diaz. "I'm inspired by you," she told the gathered honorees and their families, and congratulated the girls' families and schools as well. "The values instilled by your parents and your teachers are the values that will be with you for a lifetime."

Alverno's own leaders were on hand for the awards. Current Alverno Student Union (ASU) president Julia Morreale was joined by incoming ASU president and vice president Yasmine Ibrahim to give the "Girls Lead" honorees tips on effective leadership in their own schools, and took charge of announcing the honorees as they received their medals.

The middle school girls honored and their schools are:

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Anora Denison (Assumption of the BVM School), Lindsey Pierson (Barnhart School), Katie Taix (Holy Redeemer Middle School), Sharmin Shanur (New Horizon School), Sabrina Park and Sophia Patino (Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal), Stephany Haro (Sts. Felicitas & Perpetua School), Isabel Diaz (St. Elizabeth of Hungary School), Jennifer Albino and Marissa Dickey (St. Philip the Apostle School), Jacqueline Hischier (St. Rita School), Natasha Arief (St. Therese School) and Barbara Jimenez (St. Thomas More School).

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Dominique Pittman (Assumption of the BVM School), Eleni Daughters (Barnhart School), Monique Geronimo (Holy Angels School), Shelby Rief (Holy Redeemer Middle School), Andrea Acosta and Alysa Cuevas (Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal), Nicole Lianto (Sts. Felicitas & Perpetua School), Alyson Hartman (St. Luke School), Sarah Bloss and Isabella Salvatierra (St. Philip the Apostle School), Emily Johnson (St. Rita School), Arianna Muñoz (St. Therese School), Rachel Schmidt, (St. Thomas More School).

Nestled on a 13 acre campus in the foothills of Sierra Madre, Alverno High School is a highly regarded independent, Catholic high school for girls. Its college-prep curriculum and emphasis on leadership attracts students from public and private schools throughout the San Gabriel Valley. The school will celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of preparing young women for the future with a series of events during the 2010-2011 school year.

Pictured Right: Honoree Sarah Bloss and her parents.



High school students can earn actual school credit in such classes as Spanish 2, AP European History, Masterful Writing, Pre-Calculus, Geometry, and Computer Science. By taking such classes in the summer, motivated students can reap the flexibility to take more advanced classes or more electives in the next school year. They can learn valuable skills in such classes as Driver's Ed and Preparing for the SAT and Essay.

Tuition for K-8 is \$375 for PUSD students; \$450 for non-PUSD, with a discount for siblings. High school tuition ranges from \$150 - \$350 per class (\$175 - \$350 non-PUSD Students), depending on the number of credits offered. The program is subsidized by PEF, with generous contributions from private donors as tuition doesn't cover all costs. Financial aid is also offered through PEF.

*The Pasadena Educational Foundation is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to support educational programs, students and teachers of the Pasadena Unified School District, which serves Altadena, Pasadena, and Sierra Madre. Founded in 1971, PEF is one of the oldest public school educational foundations in the state of California. For more information about PEF call 626-396-3600, ext. 88350 or visit [www.pasedfoundation.org](http://www.pasedfoundation.org).*

**PASADENA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION 8TH ANNUAL K-8 SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM**

**WHEN:** July 5 to Aug. 4, 2011, Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. (8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at Wilson Middle School)

**WHERE:** Franklin Elementary (K-5) 527 W. Ventura St., Altadena; Norma Coombs Elementary (K-5)

2600 Paloma St., Pasadena; Willard Elementary (K-5) 301 S. Madre St., Pasadena; Wilson Middle School (5-8) 300 Madre St., Pasadena.

**HOW:** Mix of academic subjects with hands-on exploration helps students to prepare for the upcoming school year through unique and fun learning experiences.

Students in grades 2-8 attend three classes each morning; kindergarten and 1st grade students remain in one self-contained class. Classes include Band; Chess; Ceramics; Cooking; Pre-Algebra; Robotics; Writing; Spanish, Engineering, and many more.

**TUITION:** PUSD Students: \$375 first enrollment; \$350 per each sibling. Non-PUSD Students: \$450 first enrollment; \$425 per sibling

### PEF'S 2010 HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

**WHEN:** July 5 through Aug. 5, Monday through Friday, 7:50 a.m. to 1:05 p.m.

**WHERE:** Marshall Fundamental High School, 990 N. Allen Ave., Pasadena 91104.

**WHAT:** Classes include Computer Programming; Preparing for the SAT; Driver's Education; AP Algebra Prep; Pre-Calculus; Geometry; AP European History; Masterful Writing; Spanish 2; Art, Cartooning and Graphic Novels; Photography.

**TUITION:** PUSD Students: \$150 - \$300 (depending on units) Non-PUSD Students: \$175 - \$350

**REGISTRATION:** For a brochure and more information call PEF at 626-396-3600, ext. 88350. Register online at [www.pasedfoundation.org/summer/high-school](http://www.pasedfoundation.org/summer/high-school)

### Alverno High School

200 N. Michillinda Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 (626) 355-3463 Head of School: Ann M. Gillick E-mail address: [agillick@alverno-hs.org](mailto:agillick@alverno-hs.org)

### Arcadia High School

180 Campus Drive Arcadia, CA 91007 Phone: (626) 821-8370, Principal: David L. Vannasdall

### Arroyo Pacific Academy

41 W. Santa Clara St. Arcadia, Ca, (626) 294-0661 Principal: Phil Clarke E-mail address: [pclarke@arroyopacific.org](mailto:pclarke@arroyopacific.org)

### Barnhart School

240 W. Colorado Blvd. Arcadia, Ca. 91007 (626) 446-5588 Head of School: Joanne Testa Cross Kindergarten - 8th grade website: [www.barnhartschool.com](http://www.barnhartschool.com)

### Bethany Christian School

93 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 (626) 355-3527 Principal: James Lugenbuehl E-mail address: [jml@bcsclions.org](mailto:jml@bcsclions.org)

### Carden of the Foothills School

429 Wildrose Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016 626/358-9414 626/358-5164 fax office@cardenofthefoothills.com

### The Gooden School

192 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 (626) 355-2410 Head of School: Patty Patano website: [www.goodenschool.org](http://www.goodenschool.org)

### High Point Academy

1720 Kinneloa Canyon Road Pasadena, Ca. 91107 626-798-8989 website: [www.highpointacademy.org](http://www.highpointacademy.org)

### LaSalle High School

3880 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena, Ca. (626) 351-8951 website: [www.lasallehs.org](http://www.lasallehs.org)

### Monrovia High School

325 East Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016 (626) 471-2000, Email: [schools@monrovia.k12.ca.us](mailto:schools@monrovia.k12.ca.us)

### Norma Coombs Alternative School

2600 Paloma St. Pasadena, Ca. 91107 (626) 798-0759 Principal: Dr. Vanessa Watkins E-mail address: [watkins12@pusd.us](mailto:watkins12@pusd.us)

### Odyssey Charter School

725 W. Altadena Dr. Altadena, Ca. 91001 (626) 229-0993 Head of School: Lauren O'Neill website: [www.odysseycharterschool.org](http://www.odysseycharterschool.org)

### Pasadena High School

2925 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena, Ca. (626) 798-8901 Principal: Dr. Derick Evans website: [www.pasadenahigh.org](http://www.pasadenahigh.org)

### Pasadena Unified School District

351 S. Hudson Ave. Pasadena, Ca. 91109 (626) 795-6981 website: [www.pusd@pusd.us](http://www.pusd@pusd.us)

### St. Rita Catholic School

322 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 (626) 355-9028 website: [www.st-rita.org](http://www.st-rita.org)

### Sierra Madre Elementary School

141 W. Highland Ave, Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 (626) 355-1428 Principal: Gayle Bluemel E-mail address: [gbluemel220@pusd.us](mailto:gbluemel220@pusd.us)

### Sierra Madre Middle School

160 N. Canon Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 (626) 836-2947 Principal: Gayle Bluemel Contact person: Garrett Newsom, Asst. Principal E-mail address: [gbluemel220@pusd.us](mailto:gbluemel220@pusd.us)

### Walden School

74 S San Gabriel Blvd Pasadena, CA 91107 (626) 792-6166 [www.waldenschool.net](http://www.waldenschool.net)

### Weizmann Day School

1434 N. Altadena Dr. Pasadena, Ca. 91107 (626) 797-0204

Lisa Feldman: Head of School

### Wilson Middle School

300 S. Madre St. Pasadena, Ca. 91107 (626) 449-7390 Principal: Ruth Esseln E-mail address: [resseln@pusd.us](mailto:resseln@pusd.us)

### Pasadena Unified School District

351 S. Hudson Ave., Pasadena, Ca. 91109 (626) 795-6981 Website: [www.pusd@pusd.us](http://www.pusd@pusd.us)



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## ELEMENTS KITCHEN *For Dinner*

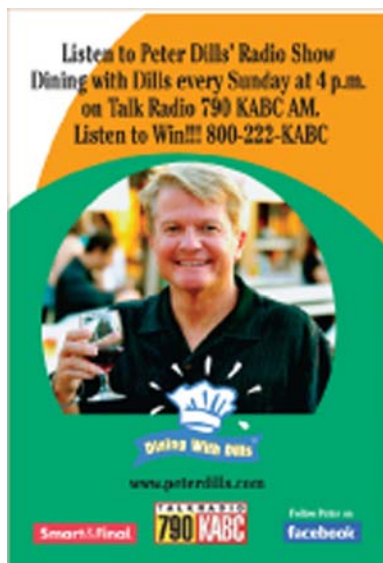
Sitting as a welcoming pillar of the Pasadena Playhouse, Elements Kitchen is one of the most intriguing restaurants in the Pasadena Restaurant scene. If you have lived in the area for any number of years you have witnessed many ephemeral restaurants in this location. An Opera House, an Italian restaurant and a Play House Café have been a few of the more notable ventures. Elements is not one of those passing us in the night, rather it is one of the most dynamic restaurants in Pasadena. I went there unannounced a few weeks back to do some detective work. I felt as though they were preparing for a big game. Everyone was hustling, the décor was elegant and I couldn't wait to return for my dinner. The owner Onil Chibas has put some serious thought behind the look of the restaurant. They pass the eye test with a pristine interior that inspires the soul. They have a great bar in the front of the house and makes for terrific people watching, especially on the night of a big play. The bartender to your front is well equipped to guide you through their world of interpretive pre-prohibition cocktails. I did not tax their skills and went for the Gruet Brut from New Mexico. I would never and I repeat, never order anything from outside the Napa region when it comes to a sparkler, but this one I do recommend!! You caught me, and yes, I broke my own rule.

### TABLE FOR TWO by Peter Dills

Sticking with a bar theme (maybe you are in a hurry and waiting for the curtain table to open)? Bar Bites are available from 5 to 10 P.M. Sausage plates, and beer battered Maui onions are fantastic choices but the Kimichi Tacos house made tortillas will win a blue ribbon. For night owls, Friday and Saturday Nights from 10 PM till midnight cocktail hour prices plus a burger are \$5 and the Garlic truffle fries for \$2 are a wallet saver.

Returning back this week to sit in the big boy section. This where your mind should start to hunger. The name Elements is divided into Chicken& Birds/ Beef and Lamb and Fish, thus the separation of Elements. Don't be confused it is simple enough; the only pressure is on the server who has to remember all of the ingredients. Our Server was Carey Smith a veteran and was up to the task, he did peak at his notes a time or two. I am embarrassed to tell you how much I ate, but thankfully my friend and elite blogger, Josie Mora was along for this expedition. For starters the Beef Steak Tomato Tartare, yes, you read that right, listed right under the Element "Tomato" not oily like I would have guessed and the display with the Tomato egg Yolk was perfect, try doing that one at home!! Another appetizer that I could see enjoying at the bar was the Crispy Buffalo Chicken lollipops with candied carrot ribbons.

Why Lollipops? They are round and plump, the shape of a lollipop. Just about the best chicken wing I have ever had. For soup, Garbure, you might know it as Peasant Soup of the South-west a France, under the Element of Cabbage: applewood smoked bacon and beans in a chicken broth. Foie Gras? Of course accompanied by house made pita rounds with roasted capers, again a delight. Let's talk about the entrees, I must ask Chef/Owner Onil and his first Lieutenant Alberto Morales where the inspiration for the menu came from; it seems to come straight out of an elite French Cooking book. Half Duck two a smoke cured Duck Breast with Crispy and just perfect confit leg and thigh, with German potato salad. So many items to choose from, again some of these dishes are now my favorites. Just about to wrap this one up. Here comes the dessert. Go for the white Chocolate & coffee Mousse, makes sure you get plenty of whipped cream. All and all, a very memorable experience. Elements kitchen 37 S. El Molino Ave. Pasadena (626) 440-0044 please check out the website for hours and updates from the menu [www.elementskitchen.com](http://www.elementskitchen.com).



.. Your thoughts? Love to hear them, the [chefknows@yahoo.com](mailto:chefknows@yahoo.com). Watch Dining with Dills on Sunday Nights at 7 PM on Charter 101. Follow me on Facebook

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## Spot Of Tea, Anyone?

### Four Seasons Tea Room In Sierra Madre Is An Elegant Place To Go

By La Quetta M. Shamblee

It's hard to imagine a more delightful way to spend a spring afternoon than sipping on a Darjeeling brew, considered the "champagne of teas" at the Four Seasons Tea Room on north Baldwin in Sierra Madre. Proprietor, Rosa Jaime's love of flowers and linens is apparent upon entering the French doors into an intimate foyer. All tables are adorned with beautiful sets of English-bone China atop delicate linens. Large windows create a sunroom ambience in the Main Tea Room and the Small Tea Room, which will accommodate up to 30 or 20 guests, respectively. Once inside, another door leads outside to a welcoming patio with lots of greenery and seating for another 30 to enjoy a spot of tea.

Maggie Gonzalez greets and escorts arriving guests to their seats. After offering a decaf tea option, guests who choose regular tea have quite a selection of quality brews, including the most popular House Blend (a Darjeeling and Assam mix), an English Earl Grey, snowflake and fruit flavored brews like apricot, pear-pomegranate and others. Tea is poured as guests at your table are probably still perusing the menu to choose from one of four basic options that range from only \$17.50 to \$22.00 per person. The Full Tea, known as the "Afternoon Tea" is the most elaborate and includes a pouring of teas, five tea sandwiches, scones and a delectable tray of homemade sweets. Minus the scones and deserts, the "Sandwich Tea" is a lighter option. The "Salad Tea" features their mouth-watering House Salad with mixed greens, toasted almonds, mandarin oranges, blue cheese crumbles and their signature house vinaigrette made from rose petals. The "Cream Tea" is the perfect fit for those craving a fix for a sweet tooth. Their tasty scones are a favorite, arriving at the table piping hot, with a generous complement of fresh cream and jam.

Most tea rooms have disappeared from the scene across the U.S., perhaps in recent years viewed as a bit stuffy and inflexible for the laid back Southern California lifestyle. Four Seasons captures the nostalgic elements of the classic English Tea, while creating an environment that welcomes and introduces new generations to the tea party experience.

The recent nuptials of Prince William and Miss Catherine Middleton provided the perfect international backdrop for Four Seasons Tea Room to take part in this historic event. Rosa says, "I sent out invitations for people to come and celebrate the Royal Wedding with a perfect cup of tea." Apparently there was widespread interest as guests arrived, all fancied in hats, fascinators and gloves. Many guests ordered scones- to-go that could be baked at home to enjoy while watching the wedding live in the wee hours of the morning on April 29th. Other fun events have included a "Phantom of the Opera" murder mystery and "Peter Pan" and "Mary Poppins" teas for children.

After seven years in business, Rosa has some new ideas up her sleeves. She is discussing plans to open on Sundays, which only happens now for reservations requests for parties of 20 or more. For the summer, she says, "I would like to have music on the patio after 4pm." It will feature a buffet with cheeses and salads, with guests encouraged to bring their own bottles of wine - with no corkage fee. Rosa does all of her own baking, but says, "This doesn't feel like work. It's child's play since I always feel like I'm simply having a tea party for friends."

Feel free to drop in for a quick tour of the facility or to take a quick peek at the beautiful table settings. Visit their website to learn more at [www.4seasonstearoom.com](http://www.4seasonstearoom.com). Reservations are recommended for Saturdays - call (626) 355-0045. Four Seasons Tea Room is located at 75 N. Baldwin, Sierra Madre 91024.



Above - The Four Seasons has the ambience of fine dining inside and out. The Patio (below) is the perfect place for intimate outdoor events.





## PASADENA ARTWALK CALL TO ARTISTS

*The 6th Annual Pasadena ARTWalk is accepting artists submissions.*

The Pasadena Playhouse District Association is inviting artists to submit artwork for the 6th Annual Pasadena ARTWalk. This year's Pasadena ARTWalk will take place on Saturday, October 15, 2011 from 11 am until 5 pm at El Molino Ave. between Colorado and Green St.

All artists are welcome to apply to exhibit in the Pasadena ARTWalk. Artists submitting work must fall in one of the following categories:

- Drawing
- Mixed media
- New media
- Painting
- Photography
- Sculpture

Application fees\*:

- \$100 - early submittal fee for applications received before June 30, 2011
- \$150 - application fee submitted from July 1 – 29, 2011

\*Artists work will be juried. If not selected, application fee will be returned

Deadline for submission: July 29, 2011

Notification date: August 23, 2011

The Pasadena ARTWalk is a free multi-faceted celebration of the arts in the Playhouse District. The festival offers an eclectic selection of art ranging from visual, written and spoken word, to performance, and culinary art. The Pasadena ARTWalk is presented by the Pasadena Playhouse District Association.

For more information on how to participate in this year's Pasadena ARTWalk, visit [www.playhouse-district.org/artwalk](http://www.playhouse-district.org/artwalk) or call 626.744.0340.

## HUNTINGTON ACQUIRES MONUMENTAL DEPRESSION-ERA SCULPTURE AND IMPORTANT EARLY 20TH-CENTURY AMERICAN PAINTING

SAN MARINO, Calif.—The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens added to its holdings two significant works of American art on Saturday. At the annual meeting of its Art Collectors' Council, the institution acquired a 22-foot-long sculpture carved as a screen for a pipe organ by the prominent African American artist Sargent Claude Johnson (1888–1967) in 1937 as well as “Harlem Flats (Back Lot Laundry),” an important early painting made in 1907 by Ernest Lawson (1873–1939), one of a group of Ashcan school artists called The Eight.

“Harlem Flats” was purchased for The Huntington by Overseer Kelvin Davis, who is also a member of the council; he offered to acquire it outright before the group began voting on new acquisitions. The field thus narrowed, the council decided to purchase the organ screen—seizing a rare opportunity to purchase a significant piece commissioned by the Federal Arts Project.

“We were faced with a very impressive slate of works to consider this year,” said John Murdoch, Hannah and Russel Kully Director of Art Collections at The Huntington. “It was clearly imperative that we add the striking, architecturally significant Johnson relief, which will be a focal point of our American art installation. But Lawson's painting will add meaningful context to one of The Huntington's greatest strengths—artists of the Ashcan school. We are delighted beyond words to be able to present both of these impressive works to our visitors.” More...

### Pipe Organ Screen for the California School for the Blind

Best known for his imagery of animals and people, particularly African and Native Americans rendered in Abstract Figurative and Early Modern styles, Sargent Johnson was one of the first African American artists in California to achieve a national reputation. More...

### Combining the Ashcan School with Impressionism

“Harlem Flats” attests to Ernest Lawson's roots in the Ashcan aesthetic. The Ashcan school is defined as a Realist artistic movement that came into prominence in the United States during the early 20th century. More...



Ernest Lawson, “Harlem Flats (Back Lot Laundry),” ca. 1907, oil on canvas, 18 1/2 × 24 in. Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens.

### The Art Collectors' Council

The Huntington's Art Collectors' Council is a group of major donors who support the growth of the collections through active involvement in the acquisition process. They meet every spring to select works for acquisition.

### About The Huntington

The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens is a collections-based research and educational institution serving scholars and the general public. More information about The Huntington can be found online at [huntington.org](http://huntington.org).

### Visitor information

*The Huntington is located at 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, Calif., 12 miles from downtown Los Angeles. It is open to the public Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from noon to 4:30 p.m.; and Saturday, Sunday, and Monday holidays from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Summer hours (Memorial Day through Labor Day) are 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Closed Tuesdays and major holidays. Admission on weekdays: \$15 adults, \$12 seniors (65+), \$10 students (ages 12–18 or with full-time student I.D.), \$6 youth (ages 5–11), free for children under 5. Group rate \$11 per person for groups of 15 or more. Members are admitted free. Admission on weekends and Monday holidays: \$20 adults, \$15 seniors, \$10 students, \$6 youth, free for children under 5. Group rate \$14 per person for groups of 15 or more. Members are admitted free. Admission is free to all visitors on the first Thursday of each month with advance tickets. Information: 626-405-2100 or [huntington.org](http://huntington.org).*

## SEAN'S SHAMELESS REVIEWS:

### Wild Palms



Sean Kayden

In 2009, WILD PALMS' first single, “Over Time” was a grungy, post-punk, sharp-edged tune with an indescribable aura of thrill, pizzazz, and restlessness. After the release of a couple of singles over the past two years, the London quartet has finally graced us with their debut album, “Until Spring”. They traded their too-cool-for-school attitude for U2-inspired arena rock anthems. It's somewhat of an uneven record that suffers from being influenced by too many bands before them. However, as you journey through the peaks and valleys of “Until Spring”, you'll discover that familiarity isn't always a bad thing. Fans of recent indie groups, We Were Promised Jetpacks, Bombay Bicycle Club, and Wild Beasts will hear the resemblances in sound arrangements. Other generations will discover lead singer Lou Hill's vocals to share similarities to 80s groups like Tears For Fears and New Order. It's not entirely clear what Wild Palms were seeking out to accomplish with their debut album. I'm not completely sold with every track on the record, but even in uncertainty I'm still bizarrely mesmerized by a few of their more potent songs. Some may call Wild Palms' earnest effort a complete misfire. However, whatever their intentions may have been, “Until Spring” is a pleasing, amiable, if not conventional, gloomy pop record. While the execution may have been slightly off, Wild Palms' shortcomings still prove that their artistry and future endeavors are just some things to take into deep consideration.

Many first time listeners of Wild Palms from 2009 will be somewhat bewildered by their new undertaking of an entirely different and expansive

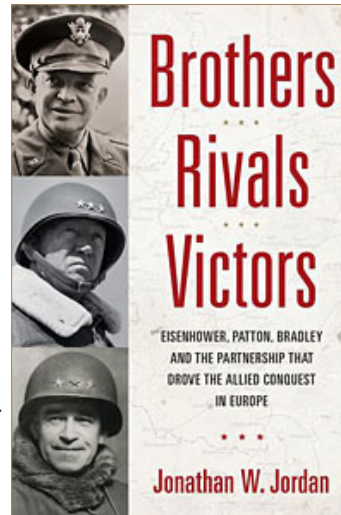
soundscape. Expectations will get the best of you because Wild Palms circa 2009 is not the band you may have wanted to embrace in this year. Personally, if I had heard their original song that provided drone-like sounding vocals two years ago, they wouldn't have even been on my radar. Since they've conformed to a more distinctive and recognizable style, I was more willing to seek them

Artist: Wild Palms  
Record: Until Spring  
Record Label: One Little Indian Records  
Release Date: April 12, 2011  
Key Tracks: “Draw In Light”, “Delight In Temptation”, “Swirling Shades”  
Grade: 7.2 out of 10.

out. Now there really isn't anything to be annoyed or irritated by with “Until Spring” unless you loathe the idea of a band implementing their influential roots into their debut presentation rather than determining their own personal, defining signature. Despite all that, you're still left with an album with superior production values, an utterly infectious sound and better-than-average vocals. At the same token, lyrically you may not become enthralled and your emotions might never be put on the line. The album itself feels a bit of a contradiction. Wonderfully flawed best describes this rapture. In the end, Wild Palms is the kind of band you first discover at a music festival and tell all your friends about how an obscure band that sounds like better-known bands changed your life. Eventually you'll realize the same feeling you had with thousands of people by your side in the moment you hailed the best time of your life doesn't even come to close to being recaptured in the privacy of your bedroom while listening to the same band's recorded album.

## Jeff's Pics The Book Report

### Brothers, Rivals, Victors: Eisenhower, Patton, Bradley and the Partnership that Drove the Allied Conquest in Europe by Jonathan W. Jordan

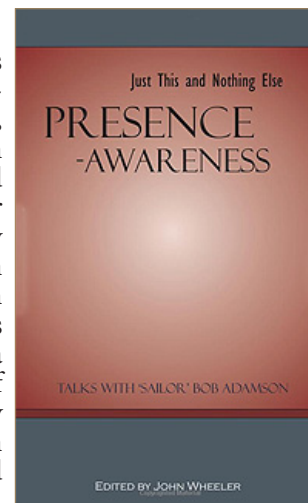


The true story of the friendship and rivalry among the greatest American generals of World War II. Supreme Allied Commander Dwight D. Eisenhower, General George S. Patton, and General Omar Bradley engineered Allied victory in Europe. But they also shared an intricate web of relationships going back decades, complicated by shifting allegiances, jealousy, insecurity, and ambition. For the first time in such detail, the relationships between these three legendary fighting men are explored, showcasing the personal side of life at the summit of raw, violent power during World War II. Jordan spent almost two years researching personal correspondence, diaries, and unpublished interviews to tell the fascinating story of the men who engineered the destruction of Hitler's mighty “Fortress Europe.” Jordan describes the evolution of friendship that dated back from their time at West Point to battlefields of World War II. Behind the D-day landings, the Battle of the Bulge, and the conquest of two continents lay an intricate web of personal relationships going back decades complicated by shifting allegiances, jealousy, insecurity and ambition. Jordan is the author of the award winning book Lone Star Navy: Texas, the Fight for the Gulf of Mexico. His writing has appeared in World War II magazine, Armchair General, Military History, World War II History, and MHQ: The Quarterly Journal of Military History.

### Presence-Awareness: Just This and Nothing else

by Sailor Bob Adamson & John Wheeler

A respected figure in the field of non-duality, ‘Sailor’ Bob shares his understanding of our real nature, presence-awareness, with seekers who attend the weekly meetings at his home in Melbourne, Australia. Presence-Awareness consists of 44 short dialogues on this direct approach to spiritual understanding transcribed and edited by John Wheeler. If you are seeking truth, reality, God or whatever you like to call it, I suggest that you start with the only reality you are absolutely certain of, which is the fact of your own being. There is no one sitting here who can say, ‘I am not’. Each one of us knows ‘I am’. But that thought ‘I am’ is not the reality. It is the closest you will ever get to it with the mind. That ‘I am’ is just a translation by the mind of that sense of presence, the awareness of presence or the presence of that awareness. That is the only reality we are absolutely certain of. Nobody under any circumstances can say ‘I am not’. That knowing is constantly and ever with us. And that is why we say that what you are seeking, you already are.



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## HOWARD Hays As I See It



"I don't know where he is. You know, I just don't spend that much time on him."

President George W. Bush - March 13, 2002

"I can report to the American people and to the world that the United States has conducted an operation that killed Osama bin

Laden . . . "

President Barack Obama - May 1, 2011

I often think of history when reading Greg Welborn's columns, and take a stroll down memory lane. Last week's argument, that giving Big Oil whatever they want will bring cheaper gas, evoked memories of that same argument used since the Reagan years. (Remember when, after federal lands were leased, taxes cut and environmental protections gutted, prices dropped at the pump? Neither do I.)

For thirty years, Big Oil has suggested if we lease more land, they'll drill more oil. But as then-Sen. Barack Obama pointed out during the 2008 campaign, 68 million acres, three-quarters of all leases held, are kept as unused assets on the books of oil companies, since it's more profitable to leave oil in the ground than to bring it to market.

As a global commodity, if we increased domestic production by a million barrels a day, OPEC could simply cut their own output by a million barrels to bring supplies back down. President Bush's Energy Department found that plunging immediately into unrestrained offshore drilling wouldn't have any effect on prices before 2030, and then "any impact ... is expected to be insignificant."

Greg mentioned the history involving Presidents Carter, Reagan and Obama as related to energy policy. Recent events invite a similar look at approaches to national security.

After effecting the Panama Canal Treaty and peace between Israel and Egypt, President Carter's focus turned to the Iran hostage crisis. Tehran threatened to try our personnel as spies, and punish accordingly. Carter made clear through back-channels that if any hostage were put on trial, an economic blockade would be imposed on Iran. If any were harmed or killed, an attack would be launched.

President Carter knew his re-election hung on the success of a planned rescue attempt, but risked it anyway. Though the plan was aborted in the sands of Desert One, no hostage was put on trial, and all returned safely.

After the 1983 bombing of our Marine barracks in Beirut, killing 241, President Reagan lobbed shells from offshore and withdrew. In a 1998 interview, Osama bin Laden cited this incident as showing "the decline of American power and the weakness of the American soldier."

When Americans were again taken hostage, Reagan responded by supplying Iran with Hawk and TOW missiles. "I told the American people I did not trade arms for hostages. My heart and my best intentions still tell me that's true, but the facts and the evidence tell me it is not."

President Clinton responded to the first World Trade Center and Oklahoma City bombings by finding, convicting and punishing those responsible; life imprisonment for Omar Rahman and death for Timothy McVeigh. When it was deter-

mined al Qaeda was behind the African embassy bombings, Clinton launched attacks on bin Laden's bases in Afghanistan.

Outgoing Clinton Administration officials advised incoming Bush counterparts our biggest threats were Osama bin Laden and al Qaeda. Bush officials instead prioritized development of a missile defense shield and preparations to invade Iraq. Ron Suskind reported how a CIA operative flew to Crawford to personally brief the president on the August 2001 memo, "Bin Laden Determined to Strike in U.S." "All right", the president told the operative, "You've covered your ass, now."

Osama bin Laden said a major motivation behind 9/11 was the presence of American forces at the Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia. Within hours of the attacks, President Bush saw to the safe passage of bin Laden's family out of the U.S. In 2003, he saw to the closing of the Prince Sultan Air Base.

In 2005, President Bush deactivated the CIA unit, established under Clinton, dedicated to hunting down bin Laden. Four years later, President Obama informed new CIA chief Leon Panetta that targeting bin Laden was once again a priority.

During the 2008 campaign, Sen. Obama took flak for suggesting if it were determined bin Laden was in Pakistan, he'd pursue him whether he had Pakistan's cooperation or not. This determination was branded reckless and naive by Republican candidate Sen. John McCain and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

Within hours of the president's May 1 announcement, some tried to rewrite history and imagine some vindication of war criminals who tortured. Time-lines and records show whatever information was used in tracking down bin Laden came from intelligence professionals and "standard" interrogation procedures. Whatever information was obtained through torture proved to be wrong.

Former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld says useful information was obtained from detainees at Guantanamo, but insists "... it was not harsh treatment and it was not water-boarding."

A welcome result of new policies was the seamless cooperation between the Pentagon, State Department, FBI and CIA; a reversal from the days when FBI professionals turned away in disgust as the CIA brought in private torturers-for-hire who, at the behest of Vice-President Cheney, tried to extract some link between 9/11 and Saddam Hussein.

History shows, 35 years ago, President Carter characterizing our addiction to foreign oil as a matter of national security; it shows President Reagan, in one of his first acts, taking down the solar panels Carter had installed atop the White House.

History shows 15 of the 19 hijackers of 9/11 coming from Saudi Arabia; it shows, a few years later, a Crawford Ranch photo-op of President Bush holding hands with Saudi Prince Abdullah as he pleads for more oil.

History began a new chapter in a White House situation room and a compound thirty miles outside of Islamabad. For those of us who watched President Obama's announcement Sunday night, it was hard not to feel a part of it.

## JUSTICE DELIVERED

## GREG Welborn



There has been no shortage of articles written about the killing of Osama Bin Laden. Too many of these have focused on the insignificant - who gets the credit, Bush or Obama, or whether we should release pictures of Bin Laden's body. Sadly, others have focused on trying to prove how once again, through unilateral action and our failure to arrest, rather than kill Bin Laden, America has acted imperialistically and immorally. It is disappointing to find that some local pastors have joined in this chorus to condemn the righteous joy Americans feel in bringing this evil person to final account. It is into that warped view that I want to bring some much needed perspective on the unquestioned morality of American resolve, commitment and justice.

To do this, let me start by drawing from an A.P. story that was just released on a new navy warship that will be named after Lt. Michael Murphy. Back in June of 2005, Lt. Murphy and his fellow SEALs were dropped into Afghanistan to track down a particularly nasty warlord. As they dug into a mountain top, they were discovered by 3 goat herders. Because of that, both sides were faced with a truly significant moral question.

The SEALs quickly realized that if they released the goat herders, who were ostensibly innocent civilians, the odds were high that they would betray the SEALs' position, but if they killed the three, their mission and their safety would be more secure. Lt. Murphy led the discussion that night, arguing persuasively that morality demanded their release. Lt. Murphy's commitment to principle ran deep. He earned his nickname, "the protector", after getting suspended from elementary school for fighting with bullies who were stuffing a special-needs child into a locker. That same moral compass led him to enlist instead of going to law school. His view was that "there were bullies in the world", and "sometimes they have to be taken care of."

Ultimately, the goat herders made their own moral decision. They did betray the SEALs, and two members of the squad, along with 16 rescuers, were ultimately killed by an attack from more than 100 Taliban. The story is a powerful one, and it is best told by the lone survivor, who wrote a book by that name.

But this story is only one of thousands like it. Despite the small number of sensational stories about a handful of bad apples, the vast majority of American servicemen willingly put their lives at risk for the sake of their commitment to a higher moral standard than ever evidenced by a single member of the Taliban or Al Qaeda. Lt. Murphy understood as a grade schooler what too many adults still don't understand. There are bullies in the world. Some of them aren't just mean; they're evil and violent. They feel no remorse or moral compunction at slaughtering 3,000 innocent civilians in New York or tens of thousands of fellow Muslims in the bazaars of the Middle East. It

is a vastly under-reported fact that more Muslims have been killed, maimed, tortured or falsely imprisoned by Muslim terrorists than have ever been killed by an American soldier. It is also under-reported that the primary protector of Muslims around the world has been America.

Americans came to the rescue in the Balkans. Americans rescued the Kuwaitis. Americans freed Afghans from Taliban repression and torture. Americans gave Iraqis their freedom, and today we stand as the primary line of defense for those in Libya who seek to establish their own democracy and decent society. If secular commentators and religious leaders are going to comment on the morality of American actions, is it unreasonable to ask that they get their facts right and look at the totality of the commitment, effort and sacrifice we make that others may live in peace and dignity?

But there is more to this question than just the righteousness and selflessness of our actions in protecting others. We must address the righteousness of killing those who would kill or torture innocents. We can always hope, as God does, that the wicked will turn from their evil ways. But if they don't, we should have no regrets at taking action to prevent them from harming others, even if that means taking their life.

The act of killing Osama Bin Laden was one of the most moral acts I can think of in my generation. There is not one scintilla of evidence to suggest that he was remorseful or even desirous of living a quiet life in seclusion. As was just reported this morning, one of his computer hard drives contained evidence of a current plot to launch an attack against our train system. Letting Bin Laden live would have inevitably meant that more innocent people would die - Americans and Muslims. To stand by and allow that to happen would have unquestionably been a deeply immoral act.

So as we reflect on the significance and morality of Bin Laden's death at the hands of U.S. forces, let us not avert our eyes from the whole truth. Facts are sometimes uncomfortable to look at, but morality demands that we look at them honestly and make the difficult decisions. We gave the man 10 years to repent. He continued to choose evil and harm others. We put a stop to that. We did a good thing! God bless the United States of America.

*About the author: Gregory J. Welborn is a freelance writer and has spoken to several civic and religious organizations on cultural and moral issues. He lives in the Los Angeles area with his wife and 3 children and is active in the community. He can be reached at [HYPERLINKmailto:gregwelborn@earthlink.net](mailto:HYPERLINKmailto:gregwelborn@earthlink.net)*

## PORTANTINO JOINS THE FIGHT AGAINST CHILD PROSTITUTION

Co-Authors AB 12 to Raise Fines Against "Johns"

Sacramento - Assemblymember Anthony Portantino (D-La Canada Flintridge) has added his support to AB 12, the Abolition of Child Commerce, Exploitation and Sexual Slavery Act. The bill, which passed the Assembly Public Safety Committee with unanimous support, would increase the fine against anyone convicted of engaging in prostitution with a minor under the age of 16.

"Current law is too lenient on these so-called 'johns' or customers," said Assemblymember Portantino. "These children often come from homes

where they have been brutalized or abandoned and they turn to the streets to support themselves. We have to shield these children from the dangers of these sexual predators. As the father of two daughters, I am horrified and angered that current law doesn't do more to keep these creeps away from minors."

AB 12 increases the fine for paying for sex with a minor to \$25,000. That money would be deposited in the Victim-Witness Assistance Fund to support agencies that aid exploited minors. The bill now goes to the Assembly Floor for a vote.

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Due to the high demand for her tutoring and education services, bookstore owner, Sally Morrison, is opening a new learning center here in Sierra Madre. **Mindspring Education Center** will cater to students (children and adults) interested in furthering their **reading, writing, math, spelling, and comprehension** skills. In addition, Sally offers assistance in **study skills, homework, and test preparation**. She also specializes in helping students with **dyslexia** and other learning difficulties. Those interested in **summer sessions** should contact Mindspring soon because space is limited.

As a result of this business expansion, Sally Morrison and Jeffrey Ingwalson, owners of Sierra Madre Books, will be **closing the bookstore in June 2011**. "We appreciate all the support we've received from our customers over the past few years, but are excited about our new venture. We look forward to continuing to be part of this community."

For questions about **Mindspring Education Center**, please call (626) 355-1972. For questions about **Sierra Madre Books**, please call (626) 836-3200.

## SENATOR HUFF SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR "CITIZEN OF THE YEAR"

The nomination period is now open for my "Citizen of the Year" contest in the 29th Senate District covering portions of Los Angeles, Orange and San Bernardino Counties. My district office in Walnut must receive these nominations by May 10th, or they can also be emailed to my District Director, Tim Shaw, at [tim.shaw@sen.ca.gov](mailto:tim.shaw@sen.ca.gov).

The contest is open to all constituents that I serve in the San Gabriel Valley, Inland Valley and Northern Orange County communities that I represent. I feel it's important to recognize people who have contributed to our overall quality of life and made significant contributions to our area.

The nominations that I am seeking for the "Citizen of the Year" contest should list specific projects that the nominee took part in or committees in which the nominee was involved. Specific contributions in the field of law enforcement, education, transportation or the environment should also be highlighted.

I will treat the winner of the Citizen of the Year contest to lunch in the District, and the winner will also receive an official Senate Resolution noting the achievement.

The contest is open to all deserving constituents who reside in the cities of Arcadia, Bradbury, Brea, Charter Oak, Chino, Chino Hills, Claremont, Diamond Bar, Glendora, La Crescenta-Montrose, La Habra, La Habra Heights, La Verne, Mayflower Village, Monrovia, North El Monte, Placentia, San Dimas, Sierra Madre, Walnut and Yorba Linda.

The 29th Senate District also includes portions of Anaheim, the Angeles National Forest, Citrus, City of Industry, East Pasadena, East San Gabriel, Hacienda Heights, Juniper Hills, Rowland Heights and Tujunga.

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Mountain Views News has been adjudicated as a newspaper of General Circulation for the County of Los Angeles in Court Case number GS004724: for the City of Sierra Madre; in Court Case GS005940 and for the City of Monrovia in Court Case No. GS006989 and is published every Saturday at 55 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., No. 302, Sierra Madre, California, 91024. All contents are copyrighted and may not be reproduced without the express written consent of the publisher. All rights reserved. All submissions to this newspaper become the property of the Mountain Views News and may be published in part or whole.

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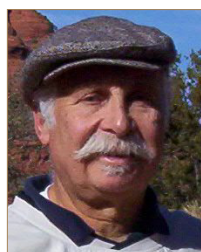
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**Mountain Views News Mission Statement**  
The traditions of the community newspaper and the concerns of our readers are this newspaper's top priorities. We support a prosperous community of well-informed citizens. We hold in high regard the values of the exceptional quality of life in our community, including the magnificence of our natural resources. Integrity will be our guide.

## STUART Tolchin.....On LIFE



### IT REALLY MAKES ME MAD

IT REALLY MAKES ME MAD that my long-time friend Steve is dying and I can't get in touch with him. About a year ago he was staying with my wife and me and we went off to play golf. Steve is the guy who got me into golf and we've played together a lot. On this particular day he was having a great deal of trouble just putting the ball on the tee. The next day he lost his phone and dropped his computer. My wife and I suggested he see a doctor and he did. About a week or so later he had the first of three brain surgeries. Each surgery was surrounded with a great deal of hope, but his condition has not really improved. In February my friend Gene and I transported Steve directly from the hospital to the Cemetery where my mom was buried. We took the precaution to get permission from the hospital and we were assured that it would be okay to take him as he was due to be released the next day.

I was very pleased to have Steve with me on that day but I haven't seen him since. He had a seizure two days later and I have talked to him on the phone several times but the conversations have become more difficult. Now, alone, I think of incidents relating to Steve. We bowled together and played tennis together and sometimes even kind of talked together. During my second year at UCLA I caught mononucleosis (do people still get that?) and Steve kindly took the trouble to gather notes from the people in my classes and bring them to me in the hospital. We were in Law School together and I suppose sometimes studied together. Probably not; what I most remember is him making me sit through the long-version of the Doors "Light My Fire Album". He turned me on to the music.

After I took the Bar Exam, Steve moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico and I went to visit. Together we discovered Taos, New Mexico in 1968. A special secret place; Taos was filled with sacred energy and literary history and strange drugs. After a few days, life seemed a little different. When Steve and I returned to Albuquerque, he got a call from a girl with whom

he had recently broken up with and learned she was interested in coming to see him. To make a long story short it was mutually agreed that it was time for me to leave and there I was, at the tender age of twenty three, all by myself just traveling around alone for the first time. I got on a bus and went over to the University Of New Mexico-where else would I go?. I met some students who told me about some class they were taking that I could audit. I went with them to the class where strangely enough the white males sat on the floor and the people of color and I think the females sat in chairs. I got to talking to some of the students and was invited to some party where mescaline or magic-mushroom canapés were offered to everyone. It was quite an evening and I met some other guys there who asked where I was staying. I said nowhere, and they said, come home with us. I did and it turned out that these boys were the sons of Charlie Driscoll, a former lawyer for Eldridge Cleaver, who was now studying to be a counselor. The next day I got to talking to him and he invited me to go with him to Las Cruces where he was leading some mental health group. I had some experience as a group-leader and he invited me to go with him and participate in the group. All in all, those few days out on my own were some of my most memorable. Steve meanwhile had made the decision to get married

A few years later he was divorced and so was I, and we took trips as single fathers, together with our children. As I think about it, I realize that Steve and I had different tastes in everything and probably really had little in common beyond our lives and memories. Now, I guess because of Steve's declining health, his brother has let Steve's friends know that visits are not possible. Yes; I've e-mailed and written letters but who knows if Steve has had a chance to see them.

IT REALLY MAKES ME MAD - not just that I am losing one of my very few old friends but more - there is no one left to share my memories. It feels like even though I'm surrounded by people, information and stimulation, I get lonelier and lonelier. Thanks for sharing this time with me, I'm glad you're still there.

## SENSE OR NONSENSE?! -

**Some Actions/Statements on County, State and Federal Issues Made Recently By Our Elected Officials:**

**PORTANTINO CONTINUES REFORMS TO CONTROL STATE SPENDING - Pay As You Go????**

"Getting our budget under control is my top priority," explained Assemblymember Portantino. "We need to embrace budget reform. That's why I reintroduced Pay-As-You-Go. As elected leaders we have a responsibility to reign in spending and ensure tax dollars are being spent in a responsible manner. The PAYGO policy will force California to live within its means and encourage us to look for savings."

## Curbing Bad Behavior: VIGILANCE

by Ron Carter



Amid the political chatter and exuberance surrounding the death of terrorist Osama Bin Laden, we (Americans) must be mindful that terrorism has not ended because its leader was killed. As I watched thousands of American celebrate the death of Osama Bin Laden, I pondered that somewhere in the world there are individuals, namely terrorists, who hate America and its citizens' way of life. And, they are planning the next terrorist attack on our country. We must continue to be vigilant.

I am content that some of the families of the September 11, 2001 victims will find some level of closure now that Osama Bin Laden is dead. As we continue to live our day to day lives in America, let's not forget that we are a forgiving, prayerful, hardworking and ambitious nation. Over the past 10 years, we have had to change our behavior. No longer can we arrived at airports 20 minutes before our flights are scheduled to leave; no longer can we enter federal buildings without walking through metal detectors and more importantly, whenever we are in public places, we have become more vigilant. As our enemies acts of terrorism have become bolder, we have had to lookout for one another.

Even though I am blessed to be living in a country where free speech for every citizen is embraced with our system of government, I trust Osama Bin Laden's death will not be politicized by some of the nonsensical chatter currently being promoted by some of television's talking heads. This is a time for unity. This is a time for contemplation. This is a time for VIGILANCE.

## JAIL Hamilton My Turn



### OSAMA bin LADIN DEAD Case Not Closed

In the biggest public relations offensive since George W. Bush vowed to go to the ends of the earth to find Osama bin Laden 10 years ago, the U.S. government is milking the alleged death of their former CIA asset for all its worth. We're supposed to take their word for it that bin Laden is dead and that he had to be buried at sea out of respect for "Islamic law."

What would have come out of a bin Laden trial? We'll never know because there was never any chance of that happening, anymore than Lee Harvey Oswald was going to go on trial for the Kennedy assassination.

The New York Times is clearly on board with this propaganda effort. Even the most mediocre journalistic standards are absent from the report posted on its web site Sunday.

"Osama bin Laden, the mastermind of the most devastating attack on American soil in modern times and the most hunted man in the world, was killed in a firefight with United States Forces in Pakistan on Sunday, President Obama announced."

There are actually two falsehoods in this short paragraph. One is that bin Laden is proven to be the 9/11 mastermind; the second is that he has been hunted all these years. Even George W. Bush admitted a few years back that they "weren't that interested" in his whereabouts.

Not only has bin Laden not been convicted -- even in absentia -- he isn't even wanted for 9/11. The FBI has him on their "most wanted" list because of the embassy bombings in Tanzania and Kenya in 1998. He is not wanted for 9/11 because -- by the admission of the FBI a few years back -- there is "no hard evidence" that he had anything to do with it.

But we can't let anything as unimportant as the truth get in the way of the official narrative of 9/11. The real criminals will never be exposed by the major corporate media because they, like the actual perpetrators, have a vested interest in perpetrating the official lie.

September 11th was not just a terrible tragedy that took the lives of thousands of innocent people. It was an American

## SUSAN Henderson MY NO. 1 MOTHER'S DAY



I was looking through past writings and noticed that I have not written very much about one of my favorite celebrations. For as long as I can remember Mother's Day represents the one day that Moms don't have to share the joy with anyone. When you're a kid that's

very special because you get to shower your Mother with all the special stuff you've either created or made. The gifts, regardless of whether or not they were worth giving, are much more precious than gold.

Speaking of which, My Mom was a jewel. Smart, creative, thoughtful and with a bit of a temper. She taught me a lot, including how to be a good mother and most importantly, how to be a good grandma. I lost my mom 16 years ago, but I can almost remember every single mothers day present I ever gave her.

There have been aprons, and flowers, special dinners, jewelry, and more, but the most memorable Mother's Day for me was when I was about 6. My mother wanted a special kitchen appliance for Mothers Day. I am pretty certain it was her Sunbeam Mixmaster. She wanted it to go with her newly remodeled kitchen which it seemed took my father years to complete.

Mom had a plan on how to get her mix master that was foolproof. Shortly after the beginning of that year, she asked me to be the messenger and tell my dad, my sister and my two brothers of her desire. For insurance (to make certain the job was completed), she gave me 50 cents. So from that day on until Mothers Day, I told everyone repeatedly what mommy wanted. At breakfast, lunch and dinner I would remind

coup -- a violent and aggressive seizure of power and transformation of both foreign and domestic policy -- it was the slaughter of civilians in broad daylight as a means of promoting an agenda.

America was hijacked on September 11, 2001. Not by Osama bin Laden and his al Qaeda network with box cutters directed from a cave in Afghanistan. But by a group of tyrants ready and willing to do whatever is necessary to keep their stranglehold on the United States of America -- a group beyond any one man or administration.

So, where do we go from here? Your reaction to what has been said will be either an emotional one or a logical one. You will deny that these things are possible and insist that this information is ridiculous and go about your life.

Or, you will acknowledge a number of serious, glaring issues in the "official" story of 9/11 -- like the sudden and inexplicable collapse World Trade Center building 7, never hit by a plane, many hours after the collapse of WTC1 and WTC2 (the Twin Towers) -- and do your part to further a new criminal investigation into the day's events.

How long will the American public or the world have to wait for the truth about September 11th? How much longer will the family members and survivors of the victims have to scream for answers?

Until there is a new, truly independent investigation into the events of 9/11, those of us seeking the truth will not go away. We will not be silent. We will continue to ask questions and demand answers. The case is not closed!

The current media blitz by the government is clearly designed to divert attention from the real questions about how Osama bin Laden was used by the U.S. as a focus of the 9/11 cover story and why it was expedient for him to exit the scene now.

The issue isn't whether bin Laden is really dead or not. For all practical purposes, it doesn't matter. It only matters how his life -- and alleged death -- is still being used to further the agenda of the global elite and perpetrate the 9/11 lie.

them. Whenever they were even thinking about spending money, I would remind them that "Mother's Day is coming up."

Now, my brothers and sisters are quite a bit older than me and they all had part time jobs. My dad was 'big bank Hank (although his name was Roy), so I didn't have to remind him to save his money. So, when the time came, dad and my brothers sent my sister and I to John Wanamakers Department Store to make the purchase. I think it was white and silver; it was very nice.

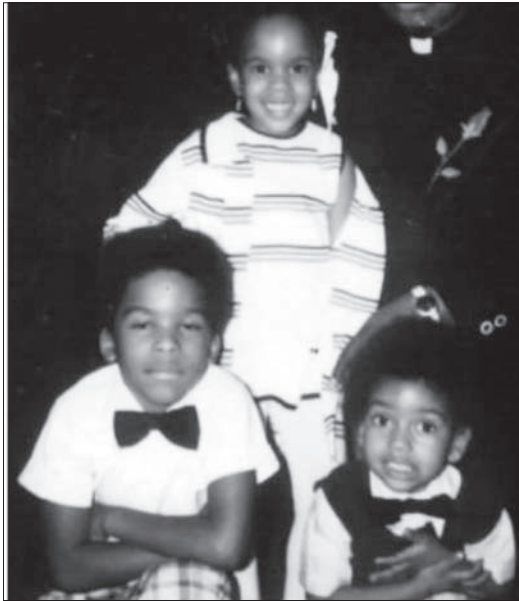
Did I tell you that Mom had given me 50 cents to keep their memories sharp? Well that was small potatoes compared to what was to come. You see, the first big word that I ever remember was when the teacher wrote 'talkative' on my first grade report card and no one knew that better than my family. So in order to swear me to secrecy, for they were certain that mom would ask me if she was going to get what she wanted, my Dad, Brothers and Sister, paid me bona fide, genuine hush money - One dollar each!

Rolling in dough, with my mission accomplished, when it was time to go to Rose Pharmacy and buy Mom a card I was able to also buy her a 'Whitmans Sampler', her favorite assortment of chocolates.

I will never forget the look on her face when she opened that box. I was so proud, it was the first gift that I ever bought anyone with my own money. And, Oh yeah, she liked the mixer too!

So I hope this Mother's Day you will be busy creating or participating in a memory that will last a lifetime. Cherish the day and thank your Mom for everything you can think of and more. Do it now because you never know what tomorrow will hold.

P.S. - There are a few more reasons that Mother's Day is so special to me. They are pictured below: (Left - My children (l-r) Paul, Patricia and Fred in 1973 and Below - My youngest grandchildren, (l-r) Maheilia, Maila and Milania, - 2011 - Fred is their Dad)





Looking Up with Bob Eklund

Spacecraft Earth to Perform Asteroid ‘Flyby’ this Fall



Since the dawn of the space age, humanity has sent 16 robotic emissaries to fly by some of the solar system's most intriguing and nomadic occupants—comets and asteroids. The data and imagery collected on these deep-space missions of exploration have helped redefine our understanding of how Earth and our part of the galaxy came to be. But this fall, Mother Nature is giving scientists around the world a close-up view of one of her good-sized space rocks—no rocket required.

“On November 8, asteroid 2005 YU55 will fly past Earth and at its closest approach point will be about 201,700 miles away,” said Don Yeomans, manager of NASA’s Near-Earth Object Program Office at JPL. “This asteroid is about 1,300 feet wide—the largest space rock we have identified that will come this close until 2028.”

Despite the relative proximity and size, Yeomans said, “YU55 poses no threat of an Earth collision over, at the very least, the next 100 years. During its closest approach, its gravitational effect on the Earth will be so miniscule as to be immeasurable. It will not affect the tides or anything else.”

Then why all the hubbub for a space rock a little bit wider than an aircraft carrier? After all, scientists estimate that asteroids the size of YU55 come this close about every 25 years.

“While near-Earth objects of this size have flown within a lunar distance in the past, we did not have the foreknowledge and technology to take advantage of the opportunity,” said Barbara Wilson, a scientist at JPL. “When it flies past, it should be a great opportunity

for science instruments on the ground to get a good look.”

2005 YU55 was discovered in December 2005 by Robert McMillan, head of the NASA-funded Spacewatch Program at the University of Arizona, Tucson. The space rock has been in astronomers’ crosshairs before. In April 2010, Mike Nolan and colleagues at the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico generated some ghostly images of 2005 YU55 when the asteroid was about 1.5 million miles from Earth.

“The best resolution of the radar images was 25 feet per pixel,” said JPL radar astronomer Lance Benner. “When 2005 YU55 returns this fall, we intend to image it at 4-meter (15-foot) resolution with our recently upgraded equipment at the Deep Space Network at Goldstone, California. Plus, the asteroid will be seven times closer. We’re expecting some very detailed radar images.”

Radar astronomy employs the world’s most massive dish-shaped antennas. The antennas beam directed microwave signals at their celestial targets—which can be as close as our Moon and as far away as the moons of Saturn. These signals bounce off the target, and the resulting “echo” is collected and precisely collated to create radar images, which can be used to reconstruct detailed three-dimensional models of the object. This defines its rotation precisely and gives scientists a good idea of the object’s surface roughness.

“This is a C-type asteroid, and those are thought to be representative of the primordial materials from which our solar system was formed,” said Wilson. “This flyby will be an excellent opportunity to



test how we study, document and quantify which asteroids would be most appropriate for a future human mission.”

Yeomans reiterated Wilson’s view that the upcoming pass of asteroid 2005 YU55 will be a positive event, which he describes as an “opportunity for scientific discovery.” Yeomans adds, “So stay tuned. This is going to be fun.”

You can contact Bob Eklund at: [b.eklund@MtnViewsNews.com](mailto:b.eklund@MtnViewsNews.com).



Ask jai.....

Ask jai is a weekly column that will strive to honestly answer your job search questions relating to job searching techniques, networking skills, resume writing and interviewing. The employment situation is getting better, however, it is still a challenge finding where the jobs are located and how to get pass the “gate-keepers”. As an Executive Recruiter I was privy to working directly with Corporate Recruiters and understanding their process in selecting which candidates to interview and hire. I will candidly answer your questions, possibly bluntly answering your questions, but I will be totally honest. My objective is to help you achieve your employment goal.

Q: Dear Jai:

I am a sales and marketing associate with a high tech firm. I have been with the company for 3 years and like my job. However, I feel that I am not growing and I do not see any place to advance up the ladder or to increase my salary. Do I tell my manager that I am looking for employment outside the company and why? How do I look for a job while currently employed and not jeopardize my current situation? Puzzled.

A: Dear Puzzled:

It’s a balancing act. It can, and of course, has been done. You will have to keep your current work situation and job seeking process separate. I would suggest that you discuss your job performance and career aspirations with your current Supervisor and try to glean any future positions that would meet your needs. I would be hesitant about letting your supervisor and company know that you were seeking employment. There are two schools of thought about this. One is that you could be coming from a position of strength and that the company might do whatever it takes not to lose you. Another is that you could be putting the company on alert that you are ready to leave and they might be looking forward to letting you go sooner than you think. I personally would keep the fact that you are looking for employment to yourself. I would suggest that you do not let anyone at the company know, including your co-workers, possibly even those you consider your friends.

It is somewhat difficult seeking employment while employed. You will have to be very organized and be able to create a scheduling system. When you have made that decision to start seeking a new job, go for it with full force and commitment! Because, when you start posting your resume on-line, networking, and applying for positions you are making a statement to the universe that you are looking for employment. The inevitable is that your supervisor and company will find out. So, be prepared with a great response if they should ask you why you are no longer happy with them and seeking new employment.

These are the paramount rules for looking for employment while employed: Do not use your employer’s computer or telephone system. Do not use your company e-mail address. Maximize your break and lunch times. Use the time to make and return telephone calls or use your personal lap-top computer to communicate. Scheduling interview time can be a little tricky. Lunch time is good and you can request a little extra time. This would be a good time to use your personal, vacation and sick time. Be aware that frequent time-off activity could become red flags to your current employer. This is the right time for you to stay committed to your goal, and not to your current employer. Lucky for you some employers love to hire people who are currently employed and will totally understand your situation and will do whatever it takes to accommodate you in arranging time to meet and interview with them. Be prepared to discuss with the employer why you want to leave your current position. Keep your energy high, be very positive and let them know the added value you will bring to the table to help make them successful. Be very clear about your career and salary aspirations. Remember, you have a job, so you really have nothing lose. This is the appropriate time and situation to praise your skills, experience and education. Keep your job search confidential until you have a firm offer letter from another employer.

Everything you ever wanted to know about how to get a job ....but did not know who to ask. ASK jai. Send your questions to: [jai@resumeandcareerservices.com](mailto:jai@resumeandcareerservices.com) or visit website [www.resumeandcareerservicesc](http://www.resumeandcareerservicesc).

Happy Tails

by Chris Leclerc.

Canyon Canine Dog Walking & Pet Sitting Services

COGNITIVE CAPACITY OF THE CANINE

human being, the cooperative nature of the canine is what sets it apart from most other mammals. The difference lies in the fact that the domestic dog harbors a certain loyalty toward his human ‘master’, that most other mammals do not possess. This is likely related to the fact that the dog depends on the human for its day-to-day needs, nourishment and safety, more so than any other mammalian sub-species.

Another unique factor is that the dog tends to thrive on pleasing his human friend and genuinely enjoys the company. Take “Chaser”, for example. Chaser is a six-year-old Border Collie, trained to understand and comprehend more than 1,000 English spoken words. He even comprehends the words when they are used in a combination of simple sentences. Chaser responds correctly when told to either retrieve and deliver, nose, toe or hide a given object; and we are talking about a collection of 1,000 items, for each of which he remembers the given name! Border Collies are more attentive and trainable than most dog breeds, that I admit, and they are considered to be more intelligent than most other breeds but still, it is amazing that any dog can perform a task involving such complex memory and problem-solving combinations, some of which even I might not be able to successfully perform.

Another example of the remarkable cognitive capability of the canine is shown in the results of a

study at the University of Vienna in Austria, where numerous dogs were prompted to select particular photos on a touch computer screen. The point of the study was to show that the subject canines could categorize the graphic matter in the photos per command, based on visual familiarity and memory. When shown different sets of dog and landscape photos, the tested canines consistently selected the appropriate photo per command, demonstrating that they could apply their own understanding and previous learning to a new situation un-related to previous experiences. Researchers further tested their four-legged subjects by showing pictures of empty landscapes, along with others of similar landscapes including a dog. Most subjects selected the pictures with the dog in the landscape. I find these test results remarkable myself. Although, honestly, it doesn’t matter to me whether my dog could select the correct picture in an experiment, or remember every command I hoped to instill in her, just knowing that dogs in general, are capable of consistently understanding, comprehending and responding to basic human verbal and body language to the extent that they can, is quite remarkable and it inspires me to continue research on the cognitive capability of the canine. It also lends credence to the particular behavior of my own dog and helps me understand why she behaves the way she does.

On Line By PJ Carpenter

Surprise, Surprise, Surprise

A report released this week by the FCC revealed that almost across the board that broadband users typically only see about half of the “up to” speeds advertised by Internet Service Providers. This revelation comes as no big surprise for the subset of online users that actually monitor connection speeds and transfer rates whether out of personal curiosity or professional duties. In my particular case, I currently support an organization that traffics in a fairly large amount of data uploaded to and downloaded from our facilities on a 24/7 basis and from time to time the issues of connection quality and speeds are raised, either internally by my department or externally by one of our remote users. Over the course of the last month I’ve been conducting a working survey that consisted of having all of our remote users upload and download pre-configured test files to an FTP (File Transfer Protocol) server located on a reserved segment of the network. Users were instructed to upload and download the test files at various times during the day and night on a schedule created by my department to ensure randomness and to simulate high-traffic patterns among multiple users accessing a single server simultaneously. The pro-

duction network itself is outfitted with a Business Class Internet connection that is tested good for Gigabit connect speed under a CIR (Committed Information Rate) clause with our Internet Service Provider. If that sounds expensive that would be because it is expensive. That extra cost goes towards ensuring that our connection speed from our ISP to the termination device onsite at our location never falls below 1 Gigabit per Second. For testing purposes 300Mbps was provisioned off to the test FTP segment of the network and the first part of the test ran for a period of 2 weeks with the results then collected and entered into a spreadsheet. The second part of the test consisted of a written survey collecting information about the connection details of our remote users to include connection type, rated speed, service provider and daily data transfer statistics to cover the month prior to the testing period. The results showed that users of Residential Class internet connection services (without CIR clause, primarily for residential use and most commonly advertised featuring the “up to” phrase) rarely, if ever, connected to our test server at the top-rated speed for their particular service provider connection and typically

hovered around 60% of maximum rated capacity across the board. Users of true Business Class Internet connection services (with CIR clause, primarily for business or industrial use) typically connected at 92% or better of their rated connection speed. While this small sampling can hardly be called indicative of connection speed and quality currently available net-wide it does raise an interesting point especially when taking into account the current ongoing “debate” surrounding the Net Neutrality issue. If ISP’s currently can and do ensure stable, high-quality internet connections and access for customers paying a premium for the service what will be the eventual state of affairs when Pay-for-Play is the rule and not the exception for everybody? What possible incentive could ISP’s have to ensure that business entities and private users who can’t afford to pay premium prices still have equal access to the electronic commons known as the Internet?

KATIE Tse .....This and That

FAMILY BUSINESS



Gosh, the news has just been jam packed lately! Will and Kate have been hitched for a little over a week now, and it’s a good thing they got married when they did.

If they planned it a couple days later, Bin Laden’s assassination would’ve totally upstaged them. Perhaps the Navy Seals could have taken him out sooner, but instead waited for the fulfillment of the royal nuptials out of respect for the happy couple and Britons everywhere. If that’s the case, it was very big of them, especially since their commander in chief didn’t even get invited to the party. I considered writing about the wedding earlier, but was dumfounded in search of any angle that hadn’t already been analyzed a million times over. Don’t get excited; I still have not found one. The following information isn’t new, but I hope you’ll find it amusing all the same.

As you’ve probably heard, the Middletons are no strangers to money, having established their own widely successful business in the 80’s. James, Kate’s brother, is also an entrepreneur, and sister Pippa is gainfully employed at an upscale London company. And what do these businesses have in common? Think canapés, fondant, and organza. That’s right - they’re all about parties! “Party Pieces” is Carole Middleton’s vending operation of everything its name implies –pieces with which you assemble your party. Legend has it that she started the outfit to combat the drab party accessories that were the norm when her children were young. Over the years the company has expanded to weddings, summer parties, fiestas, baby showers, and “hen parties” the equivalent of our “bachelorette’s night.” One essential for hen night is a pink “L” plate to be worn round the neck by the bride-to-be. “Party Pieces,” as well as other British party sites, refer to this ubiquitous white square with a capital L as simply an “L plate,” as if dumb Ameri-

cans like me are supposed to know what that means. After further research I finally discovered that it stands for “learner” as in “student driver.” Well, I learned something. A search of other British party sites emphasized the tameness of Party Pieces’ hen products, which makes me wonder if their conservative tone anticipated the royal union. I didn’t see bar/bat mitzvah or quinceañera sections, but I’m sure something’s in the works.

“Cake kits,” James’ brainchild, provides mixes, candles, and disposable baking trays (handy for the infrequent baker). Themes include football, pirates, and purses. What I loved about James’ venture is that he works out of converted barns on his parents’ farmland and tacks a number of his products onto “Party Pieces,” hence the hen night purse cake. Nice work if you can get it. Pippa works as an event planner for “Table Talk,” a swank catering company. Wedding venues range from the Somerset House and the Chelsea Physic Garden to the Dungeon of London and Madame Tussaud’s. Table Talk’s menu will certainly test your aptitude for French and Italian. However, it was charming to see comfort food such as bangers and mash elevated to fine dining status. Even sausage and potatoes seem sexy when served in ramekins.

Seeing as how the Middleton family is so vested in the business of festivity, it begs the question whether they got any creative say in the royal shindig. Will Carole get to accessorize the royal offspring’s birthdays? It seems doubtful. However, Will and Kate did festoon their getaway Aston with a pink L plate. Let’s just hope it was a “Party Piece.”

In addition to being Will and Kate’s second week of marriage, it’s also Mother’s Day! So, here’s a great, big shout out to Mary Hopkins, the best mom in the world! Love you!

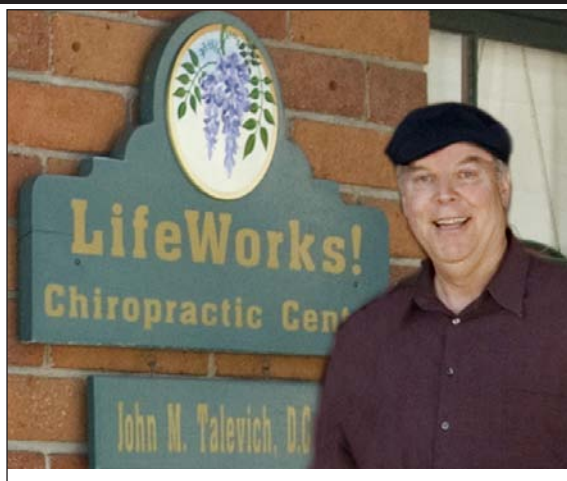




## YOUR HEALTH MATTERS

Today's Subject:

## FEAR



Dr. John Talevich, D.C. has practiced in Sierra Madre for thirty years. His clinic, LifeWorks! Chiropractic, offers patient-specific approaches to the alleviation of pain and individually tailored wellness programs.

Some time back, a patient came in and said, "I am a fear-based person." At first, this seemed a little strange. After a while, it became clear that she was simply describing herself as a person who was aware of her own sense of anxiety in unfamiliar situations. I was grateful for this information, and began to wonder how prevalent this quality is. I soon realized that most of us are walking around with some degree of fear over various things.

## Amygdala

Recent research indicates that this propensity for anxiety, fear and defensiveness may be hard-wired. The idea of being born with a certain temperament in not new, going back at least as far as written language. In today's research, we find a default system which channels incoming information through various circuits in the brain.

Those prone to hypervigilance default through the amygdala, an area in the central part of the brain that generates an alarm response. Others taking in the same information might demonstrate more activity in the hippocampus. Think of a giant arena and, as people file in, some are directed to a twelve-round heavyweight prize

fight, and others are directed to a philosophical lecture. Same ticket booth, different areas of activity. Although we know that these processes are much more complex than suggested here, we also know that the new research may lead to insights on how to reduce stress and inflammation leading to disease.

## Some Solutions

## ~Physical

The body needs water to stay cool and calm. Imagine what would happen if your car had no coolant!

- Alkaline foods such as fresh fruits and vegetables are optimal to counter inflammation, and the fight/flight response.
- Reducing inflammatory influences such as caffeine, red meat, sugar, refined flour, and many preservatives promotes an "even keel" and calm outlook.

## ~Mental/Emotional

- Mindfulness practices incorporating intentional breathing, slow walking, and meditation reroute brain pathways.

## ~Spiritual

- Nature, the great teacher, is ever willing to take over worries and concerns and dispose of them. Spend time in beautiful surroundings, taking in a peaceful environment.

- Gardening creates a sense of harmony. Get your hands in some soil and enjoy the day.

- Participate in a church, organization or group where you can celebrate life and enjoy a sense of grace and profound sharing.

Hardwired for fear? Embrace uncertainty. Go with the flow. Reshape those pathways and enjoy life deeply.

To your health! Dr. John

**John M. Talevich, D.C.**  
**CHIROPRACTIC: Simple, Elegant, Effective**  
**31 S. Baldwin Avenue Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024**  
**626-355-4710**

## SOCIAL SECURITY

## GIVE YOURSELF SOME CREDIT — SOCIAL SECURITY CREDIT

Sometimes people don't give themselves enough credit. But if you work and pay Social Security taxes, you're earning credit for yourself every payday -- credit that will pay off later in life when it comes time for retirement, or in the event that you become disabled and are unable to work; credit that can help your family if you die early and need to provide for those who depend on you.

You qualify for Social Security benefits by earning Social Security credits when you work in a job or are self-employed and pay Social Security payroll taxes. In 2011, you receive one credit

for each \$1,120 of earnings, up to the maximum of four credits per year. Most people need 10 years of work (40 credits) to be eligible for retirement benefits.

The number of credits needed for disability benefits depends on how old you are when you become disabled. For example, if you become disabled before age 24, you generally need 1 1/2 years of work (six credits) in the three years before you became disabled. At age 31 or older, you generally need at least 20 credits in the 10 years immediately before you became disabled.

In most cases, about 10 years of work is needed for a worker's family to qualify for survivors benefits. Survivors of very young workers may be eligible if the deceased

worker was employed for 1 1/2 years during the three years before his or her death.

You can find a detailed chart that shows exactly how many credits you would need in the online publication, How You Earn Credits, available at [www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10072.html](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10072.html). You also may want to read Understanding the Benefits for more information about Social Security and how it works. You can find it online at [www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10024.html](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10024.html).

Next time you feel like someone else is taking credit for your hard work, just remember that your hard work is earning you credit in ways you probably don't even think about — Social Security credit.

## SENIOR HAPPENINGS

## Activities:

Unless listed differently, all activities are at the Hart Memorial Park (Senior Center) 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre  
 Lunch Program: Monday- Friday at the Intervale Café -12:00 Noon-Call (626) 355-0256 to make your daily reservation. Suggested donation \$2.00 for seniors (60+) and \$3.75 for visitors.  
 MENU BELOW

## Monday:

- 12 noon: Intervale Lunch Café: Come enjoy a hot meal with others. Donation for seniors (60+) of \$2.00; visitors \$3.75. Please call 355-0256 to make your daily reservation.
- 1:00 pm to 1:45 pm: Strength training with Lisa Brandley. FREE class of stretching with light hand weights while you sit.

## Tuesday:

- 2nd Tuesday of each month FREE blood pressure checks by Methodist Hospital; 11 am to 12 noon
- 12 noon: Intervale Lunch Café; daily reservations needed 355-0256
- 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm: BINGO; cards are only 25 cents each so stop by & play
- 5:30 pm to 7 pm: Yoga; \$7.00 - 50 & over. Please call 355-5278 for more information

## Wednesday:

- 11 - 11:45 am: Balance Class with Teryl. FREE class designed to improve balance & refresh the joints
- 12 noon: Intervale Lunch Café; daily reservations needed 355-0256
- Free Income Tax assistance - 1 pm to 2 pm. For an appointment, please call 355-7394
- 2nd Wednesday of the month: FREE Legal Consultations: 10-11:30 am. Appointments call 355-7394
- Wii Wednesday - 1:00 pm or call the senior desk at 355-7394 to arrange another time & day to learn how to play. No previous experience or skills required and it is great exercise.

## Thursday:

- 12 noon: Intervale Lunch Café; daily reservations needed 355-0256
- 1:00 to 3:30 pm: Game Day. Join us for Poker with Bridge on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays; so please call for more information.
- 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm: Yoga; \$7.00 - 50 & over. Please call 355-52

## Friday: City Hall Closed on April 8th &amp; 22nd

- 12 noon: Intervale Lunch Café; daily reservations needed 355-0256

## Saturday:

- 11:30 am: Senior Club brown bag lunch and BINGO at 12:30 pm. The Senior Club always welcomes new members (\$5 membership dues per year) so please stop by to learn more.

## EXCURSIONS

**SATURDAY, MAY 7th**— The Ramona Pageant. Join us as we take a deluxe coach bus to Hemet to see one of the nation's longest running outdoor dramas (88 years old) - 10:30 am to 7 pm  
 Cost per person is \$53 - which includes transportation, driver's tip, lower level seats, a BBQ lunch, a souvenir program and a comfy seat cushion. This is an outdoor venue so you are encouraged to dress in layers, wear comfortable walking shoes and to wear a shade hat. limited to the first 20 people so please register as soon as possible.

PLEASE NOTE: The pick-up location for this excursion will be the Sierra Madre Recreation Center, 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., due to a special event at Memorial Park on this day.

To register for the excursion, please visit the Senior Center or go online to [www.cityofsierramadre.com/onlineinregistration](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com/onlineinregistration).  
 Save the Date: **FRIDAY, JULY 8th** —The Pageant of the Masters - Laguna Beach. Registration will open online and at the Senior Center starting May 1st

## BINGO

## Sponsor Bingo Prize

Pasadena Highlands, an independent and assisted living community, is proud to provide a special gift basket on the first Tuesday of each month. Accredited In-Home nursing care will provide a special prize on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Bingo takes place every Tuesday at 1:30 pm in the Hart Park House / Senior Center in Memorial Park. The game begins at 1:30 pm but those wishing to play must arrive 10 minutes before to secure your Bingo cards. Join us on the 1st & 4th Tuesday of each month for your chance to win these special prizes.

## DIAL - A - RIDE TICKETS

Tickets can now be purchased at:  
**Sierra Madre City Hall**  
**Hart Park House / Senior Center**  
**Sierra Madre Library**

## Recipe of the Week:

## DELICIOUS PEAR BREAD

Prep Time:	25 minutes
Cook Time:	50 minutes
Cooling time:	1 hour
Total Time:	1 hour, 75 minutes
Yield:	2 loaves; 16 servings

## INGREDIENTS:

- 3/4 cup butter, softened
- 1-1/4 cups sugar
- 3 eggs
- 3 cups flour
- 1-1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 16-oz. can pears, drained, reserving pear liquid
- 1/3 cup lemon juice OR reserved pear liquid
- 3/4 cup ground blanched almonds
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 2 Tbsp. reserved pear liquid

## DIRECTIONS:

Cream butter, 1-1/4 cups sugar, and eggs until light and fluffy. Drain pears and puree them in a blender or food processor, making sure to reserve some of the pear liquid before pureeing. Combine flour, baking powder, salt, and baking soda and add alternately with the pureed pears and lemon juice (or 1/3 cup reserve pear juice). Stir in ground nuts. Spoon batter into two greased and floured 4x8" loaf pans. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 to 55 minutes, or until bread is light brown and begins to pull away from sides of pan.

In small bowl combine 1/3 cup sugar and reserved pear liquid. Brush this glaze over loaf immediately after it's removed from the oven. Let stand in pan for 10 minutes, then pour rest of glaze evenly over bread. Remove and cool on wire rack.

## May Birthdays



Juanita Loera, JoAnn Serrato-Chi, Barbara Soulanille, Joanne Anthony, Carole Axline, Kika Downey, Shirley Hall, Dorothy Murphy, Annie Scalzo, Janet Ten Eyck, Jayne Thomas,



## Meals-On-Wheels

Meals are delivered to home-bound seniors by volunteer drivers through the YWCA Intervale Lunch Program M-F (with frozen meals for the weekend.) Call the YWCA at (626) 214-9460 or Darlene Traxler at (626) 355-0256 for more information.

## MEALS-ON-WHEELS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS TO DELIVER MEALS TO OUR HOMEBOUND NEIGHBORS

## \*\*ONCE A MONTH OR WEEKLY\*\*

Please contact Darlene Traxler at 626.355.6220 or (626) 355-0256.

## INCOME TAX TIME

Don Brunner will be volunteering his time once again to assist seniors with filing their 2010 tax return. The service is free but appointments are necessary.

Every Wednesday - February 9th to April 6th 1 pm to 2 pm Hart Park House / Senior Center, 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre (in Memorial Park). Please call the Senior Desk at (626) 355-7394 to make an appointment.



**Foothill Computer Services**  
 20+ years in Sierra Madre  
 PC Computer Repairs  
 & Electronics Consulting  
 Dave Felt 355-8315

## LUNCH &amp; LEARN

Join the Senior Community Commission at the Sierra Madre Hart Park House / Senior Center for a FREE presentation. Lunch is available for a \$2 donation by calling (626) 355-0256 by 12 noon the day before.

## Canyon Canine

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**One Of A Kind:** *Featuring unique homes and gardens and the people who create them.* Story By Chris Bertrand Photos by John Muir



## 1912 Home Remodeled to Craftsman-Style Perfection, Yet Honed to Today's Lifestyle

Ever thought of buying mom a house for Mother's Day?

Just two blocks from the charming village atmosphere of downtown

Sierra Madre, this 1912 built home was one of three side by side properties occupied by the same extended family for nearly a century. The current owners purchased their dream home from the original owner's daughter, and the homes on either side were only recently sold from the family. After their purchase, they decided to remodel and update to accommodate today's lifestyle while paying careful homage to the Craftsman roots. Arroyo stone walls in the back yard were meticulously reproduced at the front porch and back yard pillars by the project's general contractor, Nate Sciacqua of Ultra Builders in Tujunga.

The owners laughed that townspeople regularly stopped by to offer their delight and kudos at a beautiful remodel project being done "the right way."

The main and guest home's square footage was always sufficient, but the configuration was not. The newly designed floorplan includes a gorgeous front porch configured like an outdoor living room, with hardwood flooring. Sliding doors open from the front porch to the living room, for seamless indoor to outdoor entertaining.

Inside, the dining room was moved to the former atrium area. The old dining room area was reconfigured into a half bath, a walk in pantry. The seller again laughed about the changes, saying at least the bedrooms are still in the original location. Now however, each bedroom, two on the main floor, plus a master upstairs are all suites with new, private bathrooms. Each bedroom is separated for extra privacy, and one main floor bedroom includes an outdoor entrance, perfect for an au pair or in law

arrangement.

The kitchen and dining area now comprise one large open area, which flows in to the generous living area. The room is, in a word, spectacular. Intimate yet comfortable for multiple cooks, children doing homework at the bar while the chef bakes and entertaining. The granite flows with dramatic movement, like a mural on the wall behind the gas stove, and on the center island, which features a baking center, sink and seating.

Where all white cabinetry throughout the two rooms might have given an antiseptic ambiance, the contrasting center island cabinetry and display/storage built-ins under the stairs complement yet pleasantly contrast with the white of the main kitchen area.

The detail work was carefully planned throughout. The owner specified a kitchen with all drawers for ease of use, appreciating complete access to even the



back of every storage area, with pull out drawers everywhere. Several appliance garages keep appliance in reach, but out of sight. Gorgeous porcelain flooring was used in two main

floor baths, taking advantage of the impervious, nearly carefree qualities of this tile's surfaces.

As one ascends the stairs to the master suite and office, gym or nursery, an original stained glass work was moved from its boarded up first floor location, to the head of the stairs. Lit from the inside and outside, it can be enjoyed from both directions at night.

The master suite boasts a generous bedroom with cathedral ceiling, with dramatic windows soaring to the roof line. The master bath includes dual sinks, incredible custom cabinetry, a freestanding soaking tub, a fabulous walk-in shower, plus closet room fit for royalty. It even includes its own stacked laundry area (in addition to the main floor laundry).

Out back, the outdoor living room features lighted ceiling fans, built-ins, a flat screen television, and another of the original family compound's stained


glass works of oak tree limbs, gifted from one of the family's relatives. It provides a gorgeous "room divider" effect.

But wait, there's more! A 373 square foot guest house, currently under the last bits of renovation, includes living and bedroom areas, plus a bath. Beyond that, the extra deep 9906 square foot lot features a hidden vegetable garden and a workshop.

The home is in walking distance to the town's restaurants, unique retail, arts and services, plus four K-8th grade schools, both public and private. Kersting Court and the town's two large parks host a plethora of activities and events, like this weekend's Art Fair in Memorial Park, about six blocks away.

25 W. Grandview in Sierra Madre was just listed at \$1,195,000 by Emily Duggan of Century 21 Village. It features three bedrooms, an office/gym/nursery, 3.5 baths, a two car attached garage and separate guest house. For more information, contact the agent at 626-695-1206.

*Know of an interesting home, garden or person who helps create them? Send the contact information to [C.Bertrand@MtnViewsNews.com](mailto:C.Bertrand@MtnViewsNews.com)*



**Tips of the Trade:  
Real Estate Revealed**  
*by Luther Tsinoglou*

**A PRICING PUZZLE**

If you need to sell your home, but it has lost value since you first bought it, you're facing a pricing puzzle. But before deciding on a fair price that may be below what you really want, consider the costs of not selling by asking more.

If your home sits on the market, waiting for a higher offer, you've got to figure in the costs of continuing your monthly mortgage payments, utilities, maintenance and insurance.

Compare the asking prices of similar homes to the actual sales prices, often determined more by the lenders than the buyers. If you're asking more than your home's current value, the required appraisal will show that, and the lender won't approve the buyer's loan, leaving you back at Square One.

Walk in the buyer's shoes and do your homework. Go ahead and tour similar homes listed in your area. Compare their price per square foot and see how yours stacks up against the competition in terms of value. This should help you arrive at an aggressive asking price that will hopefully be your sale price.

Local inventory determines your price, too. Divide 1 by the number of months of inventory (ask your agent for this number to determine the local "absorption rate"). 8 months of inventory yields a 12.5% likelihood of selling, so speak with your agent and price accordingly.

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### What Are Grubs Anyway?

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They live underground and feed on the roots of your lawn. The most serious problems occur in late summer and fall, but you can also see damage in late spring.

"Grub damage can resemble other problems, so diagnosis can be tricky," said Lance Walheim, author of "Lawn Care for Dummies" and lawn care expert for Bayer Advanced™.


You've got a grub problem if you see:

- Dead, brown patches in your lawn.
- Wilting grass, even when it's watered.
- Birds, moles, possum and raccoons digging in your yard.
- Lots of beetles flying around.

Another sign: You can lift up the grass like a rug and see grubs underneath.

If you need fast action or easy prevention measures, check out [www.BayerAdvanced.com](http://www.BayerAdvanced.com) for its 24-hour Grub Killer Plus I granules (kills grubs within 24 hours) and the new Season-Long Grub Control ready-to-spray formula (kills grubs all season long). Always read and follow label directions.

Deep, infrequent watering, fertilizing once or twice a year and mowing at the correct height for your grass with a sharp blade can keep your lawn healthy and less susceptible to pest damage.



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RICH Johnson YOU A GENIUS OR AN IDIOT II: THE ANSWERS



Well, you've had all week to ponder the test printed in last week's paper. I figured I better not forget to run the answers or I might be hunted down. I am not going to mention by name my favorite retired Caltech Professor. Apparently CS has scored a perfect paper. I couldn't even do that and I have the answers.

- Here you are:
- 26 = Letters of the Alphabet
  - 7 = Wonders of the World
  - 1001 = Arabian Nights
  - 12 = Signs of the Zodiac
  - 52 = Cards in a Deck
  - 9 = Planets in the Solar System
  - (Ok, I know Pluto has been downgraded)
  - 88 = Piano Keys
  - 13 = Stripes of the American Flag
  - 18 = Holes on a Golf Course
  - 32 = Degrees Farenheit, at which Water Freezes
  - 8 = Sides on a Stop Sign
  - 200 = Dollars for Passing Go in Monopoly
  - 3 = Blind Mice (See How They Run)
  - 90 = Degrees in a Right Angle
  - 4 = Quarts in a Gallon or Quarters in a (football) Game

- 24 = Hours in a Day
  - 1 = Wheel on a Unicycle
  - 5 = Digits in a Zip Code
  - 57 = Heinz Varieties
  - 11 = Players Fielded on a Football Team
  - 1000 = Words that a Picture is Worth
  - 29 = Days in February in a Leap Year
  - 64 = Squares on a chess/checkerboard
  - 40 = Days and Nights of the Great Flood
  - 80 = Days to Go Around the World
  - 2 = # it Takes to Tango
  - 101 = Dalmatians
- It's been an eventful week. My congrats to President Obama for stepping up to the plate. It is the true test of leadership. I'm glad he did what he did, though I feel no joy at the death of anyone. (Though I don't judge those who do, particularly New Yorkers). Hopefully the death of Bin Laden will bring about the collapse of Al Qaida. My congrats also to President Bush for his efforts as president. There are very few presidents whose entire administration and legacy is viewed through the prism of cataclysmic events. FDR and Lincoln are the only two I can think of. FDR and Lincoln were luckier than Bush and Obama. They didn't have the eyes of everybody always looking over their shoulders and second guessing their every move. Thank you for being presidential.

ONE MAN’S JOKE IS ANOTHER MAN’S HUG

Rev. James L. Snyder

To anybody that knows me, (and can anybody really know anybody else?), they would readily affirm that I am not addicted to hugging. Let me point out very quickly I am not allergic to it either. I just believe a good hearty handshake says everything I want to say to anybody I meet. This is biblical. The Bible talks about extending to one another the right hand of fellowship, and nothing says it better than a firm, hearty handshake. Anyway, that's my story and I'm sticking with it. I usually reserve my hugs for the little people in my life, like my grandchildren and their friends. The smaller they are the more they need a hug. But that is my limit. Although, I have been waylaid on occasion, none of it was my doing. I stick firm to a good handshake and leave the hugging to other people. I do not criticize people who like to hug. I just am not one of them. I like what my grandfather used to say, "To each his own."

Recently, certain events brought me to the point of challenging my whole theory of hugology. It all began at the end of a rather busy Sunday. My Sundays at the church begin at eight o'clock in the morning and concludes somewhere around eight o'clock in the evening. Of course, I go home for lunch and a quick nap in the afternoon, but my whole day is devoted to the church. And I like it that way. If it were up to me, there would be seven Sundays in a week. I was driving home from church late last Sunday evening and my self said, "I sure am thirsty and could go for a nice cold diet Pepsi." Usually, I am beside my self, but this was one of those rare occasions when I was perfectly in harmony with my self. So I said, "Self, for once I agree with you. Let's go get a soda." And on that note, I set my sights on satiating both of our thirsts. Not far from my house is a grocery store that is open late Sunday night. I parked in the parking lot and moseyed on in to purchase a cold diet Pepsi. I thought of buying two, one for me and one for my self, but then how would I explain that to the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. I immediately found the soda and walked up to the cashier to pay for my purchase and then saunter on home and enjoy the diet Pepsi. Standing in line I overheard the gentleman in front of me talking to the cashier and being the astute person I am, gathered that they were married... to each other.



After paying for his purchase the cashier stepped from a behind the cashier area and they hugged and kissed right there in front of God and everybody. Being two brain cells short of an idiot, I said loud enough so everybody could hear me, "I guess I got in the right line tonight." Everybody looked at me and we all shared a wonderful and hearty laugh. I love it when a joke comes together. I cannot tell you how many times I have been on the backend of a joke that backfired. I hate it when a joke backfires, but when it is well timed and wondrously articulated, it is a joy forever. I turned and talked to the person behind me who thoroughly enjoyed the humor of the moment. I have found that humor brings more people together than anything else. And there is nothing like a good laugh to cheer a spirit that may be sagging for a moment. It seems everybody has problems these days, and a smile goes a long way. And in this, I am in complete harmony with the Bible. "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones" (Proverbs 17:22 KJV). And from some of the people I have encountered recently, there is a great need for this kind of medicine. Finally, it was my turn with the cashier. She greeted me warmly and then processed my purchase. We exchanged some pleasantries and then I was about to leave the store with my diet Pepsi. It was then that I was caught by surprise. The cashier stepped from behind her cashier's post and said to me, "Sir, here's your hug for tonight." And before my two brain cells could get their act together, I was in the middle of a hug. When the aforementioned brain cells recovered, I finally thought, "I hope she's not going to kiss me."

Thankfully, she didn't. But the rest of the customers clapped rather heartily. Too heartily if you ask me. We often judge people according to our own personal preference. If we like something, we assume everybody else likes the same thing. If, on the other hand, we think something is wrong we believe everybody should have that same conviction. Sometimes we need to be careful what we say and what we do.

Local Students Graduate from Azusa Pacific

AZUSA, CA -- The following students will graduate from Azusa Pacific University on Sat., May 7. They will join more than 1,300 graduates at the spring commencement ceremonies.

- Altadena, Calif. resident Sandra Dennis with a Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems
- Altadena, Calif. resident Marvin C. Hinds with a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership
- Altadena, Calif. resident Ngozi I. Uwagboi with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Altadena, Calif. resident Tamar Alice Aroyan with a Master of Arts in Education: Teaching
- Altadena, Calif. resident Cleonie L. Harrison with a Master of Arts in Education: Teaching
- Altadena, Calif. resident Danyelle Louise Rucker with a Master of Arts in Education: Teaching
- Arcadia, Calif. resident Corinne Catherine Giangrande with a Bachelor of Arts in Music
- Tuenmun, Hong Kong resident Ho Wah Leung with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
- Arcadia, Calif. resident Karla Aguilar-Solis with a Master of Arts in Education: Educational Counseling
- Arcadia, Calif. resident Tiffany Nicole Hartline with a Master of Arts in Education: Teaching
- Arcadia, Calif. resident Yihui Li with a Master of Science in Nursing
- Monrovia, Calif. resident Christopher Zachary Bright with a Bachelor of Arts in Theater Arts
- Monrovia, Calif. resident Lynsey Rynida Ruangchan with a Bachelor of Arts in Music
- Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. resident Cynthia Marie Ramirez with a Bachelor of Arts in Human Development
- Monrovia, Calif. resident Amber Lisa Burdick with a Master of Music in Performance: Instrumental
- Monrovia, Calif. resident Matthew Daniel Clegg with a Master of Arts in Education: Educational Counseling
- Monrovia, Calif. resident David A. Hull with a Master of Arts in Education: Educational Counseling
- El Cajon, Calif. resident Marisa D. Katzman with a Master of Social Work
- Monrovia, Calif. resident Adriana M. Reaver with a Master of Social Work
- Monrovia, Calif. resident Marcelo Jesus Leonardi with a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership: Teaching and Learning
- Sierra Madre, Calif. resident Ryan David Chin with a Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies
- Sierra Madre, Calif. resident Rachel Johnson with a Bachelor of Arts in Art
- Sierra Madre, Calif. resident Sarah Raphael Robison with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Sierra Madre, Calif. resident Taylor Anne Nestlerode with a Bachelor of Arts in Human Development
- Sierra Madre, Calif. resident Brittany E. Lindsey with a Master of Arts in Education: Educational Counseling
- Arcadia, Calif. resident Salli N. Throop with a Master of Arts in Leadership and Organizational Studies
- Pasadena, Calif. resident Heather Leanne Bodell Anastasia with a Master of Arts in Education: Educational Psychology
- Pasadena, Calif. resident Paul G. Camargo with a Master of Arts in Education: Digital Teaching and Learning
- Pasadena, Calif. resident Thomas Adam Lister with a Master of Arts in Education: Digital Teaching and Learning
- Pasadena, Calif. resident Nicole Celeste Wood with a Master of Social Work

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